



**Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**  
**Office of Energy Projects**  
**Washington, DC 20426**

# **Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project**

## **Northeast Connector Project**

*Final Environmental Impact Statement*



**Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC**  
**Docket Nos. CP13-36-000, CP13-132-000, and PF09-8-000**  
**FERC/EIS-0246F**  
**Volume II**

**Cooperating Agencies:**



**February 2014**

**Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project  
Northeast Connector Project**

**Final Environmental Impact Statement  
Volume II – Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Responses**

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## PUBLIC COMMENT MEETINGS

### CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York

1

1 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
2 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION  
3  
4 - - - - - x  
5 Transcontinental Gas : Docket No. CP13-36-000  
6 Pipe Line Company, LLC. : Docket No. cpl3-132-000  
7 - - - - - x  
8  
9 ROCKAWAY DELIVERY LATERAL PROJECT  
10 and NORTHEAST CONNECTOR PROJECT  
11 Knights of Columbus  
12 Rockaway Council 2672  
13 333 Beach 90th Street  
14 Rockaway Beach, New York 11693  
15 Tuesday, October 22, 2013  
16  
17 The public hearing, pursuant to notice, convened at 7  
18 p.m, before a Staff Panel:  
19 KARA J. HARRIS, Environmental Project Manager,  
20 Office of Energy Projects, FERC  
21 SUZANNE MCCARTHY, Deputy Superintendent,  
22 Gateway National Recreation Area  
23 LARRY BROWN, Project Manager,  
24 Natural Resource Group (NRG)  
25  
26



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

2

1	LIST OF PUBLIC SPEAKERS	
2	Lew M. Simon, Assembly District Leader, 23rd A.D.	9
3	John Cori, Friends of Rockaway Beach	11
4	Jessica Roff, Restore the Rock	13
5	Grace Miller	19
6	Christina Pirovits, Park user	20
7	Barbara Pearson, Park user	21
8	Gay Snyder, Attorney	24
9	Donna Stein	29
10	Judith K. Canepa	31
11	Maureen Healy	36
12	Catherine Skopic	40
13	Suzy Winkler	44
14	Edie Kantrowitz	47
15	Anne Bassen	52
16	Dave Dou	54
17	Darren Katsidis	56
18	Ava Berman	58
19	Jose Valez	59
20	Eric McGregor	61
21	Joe Nerone	63
22	Karen Orlando	73
23	Margery Schab	77
24	Kim Fraczek	79
25	Gladys Paulson	80
26		

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

3

### 1 LIST OF PUBLIC SPEAKERS

2

3 Clare Donohue, Sane Energy Project 82

4 Peter Fend 88

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## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

4

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening. We're going to get  
3 started, so if everyone could find their seats.

4 (Pause)

5 Good evening, everyone. On behalf of the Federal  
6 Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as the F.E.R.C. or  
7 "FERC" I would like to welcome you here tonight. This is a  
8 public comment meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact  
9 Statement or EIS for the Rockaway Delivery Project and the  
10 Northeast Connector Project. Both projects are proposed by  
11 Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC, also known as  
12 Transco.

13 My name is Kara Harris, and I am environmental  
14 project manager with FERC's Office of Energy Projects.

15 Sitting to my left is Suzanne McCarthy, who is  
16 Deputy Superintendent of Gateway National Recreation Area.

17 Larry Brown, to my right, is a Project Manager  
18 with Natural Resource Group, also known as NRG. NRG is an  
19 environmental consulting firm assisting us in producing the  
20 EIS for the projects.

21 The FERC is an independent federal agency located  
22 in Washington, D.C. that regulates interstate transmission  
23 of electricity, natural gas, and oil. We are the lead  
24 federal agency responsible for the National Environmental  
25 Policy Act, also known as the NEPA review of proposed  
26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

5

1 projects, and the lead agency for the preparation of the  
2 EIS.

3 The National Park Service, U.S. Environmental  
4 Protection Agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the  
5 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National  
6 Marine Fisheries Service, and the City of New York agreed to  
7 be cooperating agencies with FERC and assisted in the  
8 preparation of the Draft EIS.

9 The proposed projects consist of 3.2 miles of new  
10 pipeline, one new metering and regulating station,  
11 modification of three existing compressor stations, and  
12 various onshore and offshore facilities, including taps,  
13 valves, manifolds, launchers and receivers.

14 It is important for everyone to understand that  
15 the proposed projects were not conceived by and are not  
16 promoted by the FERC, the Park Service, the EPA, the Corps  
17 of Engineers, the National Marine Fisheries Service, or the  
18 City of New York. The FERC staff reviews applications for  
19 the authority to build and operate interstate natural gas  
20 pipelines, and Transco submitted applications to the FERC in  
21 January and April of this year.

22 Our obligation is to review the applications and  
23 prepare an analysis of the environmental impacts. If you  
24 wish to speak tonight, please be sure to sign in at the  
25 Speakers List. If you do not wish to speak, you can fill  
26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

6

1 out one of the comment forms, or follow the instructions on  
2 the form to send written comments to us at a later date.  
3 The Speakers List and the handouts are both at the sign in  
4 table where you came in.

5  
6 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing. We're  
7 here to debate the proposal or to make any determinations on  
8 its fate. The purpose of tonight's meetings is to provide  
9 each of you with the opportunity to give us your comments on  
10 the Draft EIS. We're here tonight to learn from you. It  
11 will help us the most if your comments are as specific as  
12 possible regarding the proposed projects and the Draft EIS.

13 During our review of the projects, we assemble  
14 information from a variety of sources, including Transco,  
15 you the public, other state, local and federal agencies, and  
16 our own independent analysis and field work. Our analysis,  
17 findings and recommendations ensure environmental impacts  
18 are minimized, are summarized in the Draft EIS that was  
19 distributed to the public for comment.

20 FERC issued a Notice of Availability for the  
21 Draft EIS on October 4, and initiated the comment period.  
22 We mailed 800 copies of the Draft EIS, to everyone on our  
23 mailing list. However, due to a lapse in funding for the  
24 USEPA, the official 45-day public comment period for the  
25 Draft EIS does not begin until October 25th. The end of the  
26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

7

1       Formal comment period has been extended from November 25th  
2       to December 9th, 2013.

3               All written comments received during the comment  
4       period and provided verbally on the record tonight will be  
5       addressed in the final EIS. All comments that we receive,  
6       whether they are orally or written, are handled in exactly  
7       the same fashion. There's no difference, either one form or  
8       the other during our review.

9               While our comment period is scheduled to end on  
10       December 9th, we will continue to take and analyze comments  
11       throughout our process. So while we have a deadline, it  
12       does not mean that we would ignore comments that are  
13       received after December 9th. However, we do ask that you  
14       provide comments as soon as possible in order to give us  
15       time to analyze and research the issues, and provide  
16       adequate responses.

17               I would like to add that the FERC strongly  
18       encourages electronic filing of any comments. the  
19       instructions for this are located on our website, at  
20       www.FERC.gov under the eFiling link. The comment forms at  
21       the sign-in table also tell you how to file comments  
22       electronically. If you received a copy of the Draft EIS,  
23       you will automatically receive a copy of the Final EIS. If  
24       you did not get a copy of the draft and would like a copy of  
25       the final, please sign the mailing list at the table, and  
26



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

8

1 provide your name and address, and we will make sure you get  
2 a copy of the Final EIS.

3 To clarify, the EIS is not a decision-making  
4 document. It is being prepared to advise the Commission and  
5 to disclose to the public the environmental impact of  
6 constructing and operating the proposed projects. When it  
7 is completed, the Commission will consider the environmental  
8 information from the EIS along with the non-environmental  
9 issues including engineering, markets, and rates in making  
10 its decision to approve or deny a certificate, which will be  
11 the FERC's authorization for these projects.

12 If the Commission votes to approve the projects  
13 and a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is  
14 issued, Transco will be required to meet certain conditions,  
15 as outlined in the certificate, to limit adverse  
16 environmental impacts. FERC Environmental Staff will  
17 monitor the projects through construction and restoration by  
18 performing onsite inspections to ensure environmental  
19 compliance with conditions of the FERC certificate.

20 We will now move in to the part of the meeting  
21 where we will hear comments from the audience members. As I  
22 mentioned before, if you would rather not speak, you may  
23 hand in written comments tonight or send them to the  
24 Secretary of the Commission. Whether you verbally provide  
25 your comments or mail them in, they will be equally  
26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

9

1 considered by FERC.

2 This meeting is being recorded by a transcription  
3 service, so all your comments will be transcribed and placed  
4 into the public record.

5 For the benefit of all in attendance and for  
6 accuracy of the transcript, when we call your name please  
7 step up to the podium and clearly state your name and  
8 affiliation, if any. You might spell your name to the court  
9 reporter to ensure accuracy if misspelling is likely. Also,  
10 please speak directly into the microphone so that you can be  
11 clearly heard by the reporter, the panel, and the audience.

12 Lastly, before we start, as a courtesy to our  
13 speakers and the rest of the audience, please turn off or  
14 silence your cell phones. Thank you.

15 We're now ready to call our first speaker.

16 MR. BROWN: Lew Simons is the first speaker.

17 MR. SIMON: Good evening. My name is Lew M.

18 Simon. I'm the Assembly District Leader in the 23rd A.D.

CM1-1 | 19 I'm here tonight because I'm very, very concerned  
20 about what's going on. Where not even a year after the  
21 hurricane, it seems to be that this proposal is being pushed  
22 down our throats. We did not have a chance to come out and  
23 testify or speak up, because we didn't even have a place to  
24 testify.

CM1-2 | 25 I'm very concerned about a number of projects  
26

CM1-1 The public comment process for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project (Rockaway Project) and Northeast Connector Project (collectively referred to as the Projects) is discussed in Section 1.3 of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

CM1-2 The risk of pipeline failures, including ruptures, is discussed in Sections 4.12.2 and 4.12.3 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		10
CM1-2 (cont'd)	1	I've been told by Williams, natural gas has exploded. We're
	2	a small island. We see what a hurricane could do. Could
	3	you imagine what an explosion can do.
CM1-3	4	Gateway National Park, which is not friendly to
	5	our community, you seem to slam the door on our face
	6	constantly. You seem to be making decisions for us. It's
	7	just sad that many more of my neighbors are not here to
CM1-4	8	discuss this. We are concerned; we're scared of cancer, we
	9	have a major cancer cluster in our community. Many people,
	10	women have had breast cancer, young and old, and other kinds
	11	of cancer; and I'm very concerned.
	12	And part of what I made my commitment was to come
	13	here tonight -- I just got out of the hospital, I did have
	14	two stents put in my heart -- and I'm here because I'm
	15	aggravated, and I've got to watch my pressure --
	16	(Laughter)
	17	-- but I'm very aggravated with the fact that you
CM1-5	18	would attempt to do this to us. I would ask to slow the
	19	process down and allow us time to get together and prepare
	20	for this. Because, you know, we've been fighting everybody
	21	now. We still don't have our boardwalk, we still don't have
	22	any protection, we have nothing here. Just that they try to
	23	ram things down our throat.
CM1-6	24	And I'm concerned, this is not going to help us.
	25	This is going to help everyone but our community. And
	26	

CM1-3 Comment noted.

CM1-4 The Projects would be designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with, or to exceed, all applicable federal and state regulations, which have been established to protect public health and safety. As indicated in Section 4.12 of the EIS, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), the primary component of natural gas, is inactive biologically and essentially nontoxic. It is not listed in the International Agency for Research on Cancer, National Toxicology Program, or by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen.

CM1-5 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM1-6 As discussed in Section 1.3 of the EIS, development of natural gas resources in the Marcellus shale region or any other upstream area is not directly related to the Projects or the subject of this EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

11

CM1-6  
(cont'd)

1 fracking, I'm very much against fracking. And it's just a  
2 damn shame that our Governor Cuomo has not taken a stand  
3 yet, to speak with us. So I'm here to tell you, stop the  
4 project, slow it down, listen to us the community, hear us  
5 loud and clear, and please think twice.

6 Thank you very much.

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MR. BROWN: John Corey.

10 MR. CORI. Name is John Cori, C o r i. And I'm  
11 here as a resident of Rockaway Beach. I also head up a  
12 group called Friends of Rockaway Beach, and we've been  
13 fighting for our beaches for a very long time. And one of  
14 the biggest things we fight for is the completion of a long  
15 term study called a 2003 Reformulation Study.

CM1-7

16 It boggles the mind how a long term study like  
17 that by the federal government takes 10 years to now 13  
18 years to complete, and you guys have got this thing  
19 accomplished in no time. It just really -- the questions we  
20 have for you is how does that happen? When it comes to big  
21 business, it's just a rubber stamp. And when it comes to  
22 protecting our beaches and getting rock jetties and sand for  
23 us, we have to wait years and years and years and be stuck  
24 with the potential of another storm taking our community  
25 out.

26

CM1-7

Review of the Rockaway Project began in 2009. Please see Section 1.3 of the EIS regarding the review process.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

12

CM1-8 1 Now with that potential there, what's going to  
2 protect this pipeline when the massive erosion occurs to the  
3 underneath near this pipeline and when the water starts to  
4 -- with sea level rise, and starts to go into Floyd Bennett  
5 Field and starts to take out the various stations they have  
6 there. You know, there's big concerns there.

CM1-9 7 The other thing we have to talk about is the lack  
8 of transparency about this meeting. I'm very involved in  
9 the community, as Lew is and everybody else, and this place  
10 should be mobbed. But it's not because I only found out  
11 about this meeting yesterday, you know, just by somebody  
12 else happening to mention it.

13 (Applause)

14 It's really crazy; like I come to this hall about  
15 five times a week to meetings after meetings. We're  
16 meetinged-out in this community. And for you guys to come  
17 here like this, on two or three days' notice, I don't know  
18 who you told, but it's very, very disheartening that we have  
19 to come here again, another night out of our day, out of our  
20 night, and we could be home with our families and we have to  
21 fight against something we do not want.

CM1-10 22 This community does not want this pipeline; we  
23 don't want our beaches trenched up; we don't want offshore  
24 trenched up; we don't want the potential of exploding  
25 pipelines. So please listen to the people, the people who  
26

CM1-8 Pipeline safety is discussed in Section 4.12 of the EIS. Potential impacts due to hurricanes are discussed in Section 4.1.4.2 of the EIS. Potential impacts due to flooding are discussed in Section 4.1.4.3 of the EIS, which has been updated to include more recent data from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on the risk of flooding.

CM1-9 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM1-10 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		13
CM1-10 (cont'd)	1	have elected, the people who have given you jobs. Okay? So
	2	remember, we do not want it.
	3	Thank you.
	4	(Applause)
	5	MR. BROWN: Jessica Roth.
	6	MS. ROFF: Hi, my name is Jessica Roiff, I am a
	7	resident of Brooklyn, New York. I have been working out
	8	here in this community since two days after the storm, I
	9	work with an organization called Restore the Rock. I also
	10	work with Occupied Pipeline and a number of other
	11	organizations that are working against pipelines and fossil
	12	fuel infrastructure throughout the state.
CM1-11	13	This pipeline is so disturbing on so many levels.
	14	There has been no protection rebuilt in this community,
	15	there has been little money spent on rebuilding, and the
	16	thing that has been done is building a pipeline for fossil
	17	fuel that is dangerous, that is radioactive, that is
	18	explosive, that is putting this community at further risk of
	19	major devastation when they are still not recovered from
	20	what has already destroyed so much of what's been going on
	21	here. And it's being built down one of the major evacuation
	22	routes.
	23	So that should be a huge concern that has never
	24	been addressed, as best as I know. There are so many other
CM1-12	25	reasons that this is also a problem. First of all, clearly
	26	

CM1-11 The Projects would be designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with, or to exceed, all applicable federal and state regulations, which have been established to protect public health and safety. Section 4.12 of the EIS discusses the localized risks to public safety that could result from a pipeline failure and describes how the applicable safety regulations and standards would minimize the potential for these risks. This includes the development of a new Emergency Response Plan for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral. Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) would also meet with local emergency services agencies on a regular basis to review and revise the plans when necessary. Section 4.11.1.5 of the EIS has been updated to include additional information about radon and the risk of radon in natural gas.

CM1-12 An assessment of the information evaluated by Congress to pass HR 2606 is outside the scope of this EIS.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		14
CM1-12 (cont'd)	1	there's been, as John talked about, a lack of transparency;
	2	the federal law that was passed in order to actually allow
	3	this pipeline to go through a national park was done in
	4	November when there was still no power in three-quarters of
	5	this community. Most people didn't have food, hot water,
	6	safe homes or electricity, and the federal government was
	7	secretly authorizing something that was going to cause
	8	further disruption to this community.
CM1-13	9	In addition, we see time-and-time again that
	10	Transco Williams is unreliable. Not only do they come in
	11	and pick and choose who it is that they try to assuage with
	12	little gifts like uniforms for little league teams, or
	13	whatever else it is that they're secretly buying support
	14	from groups that they see as important; but in addition to
	15	that, they've already changed their plans. They're already
CM1-14	16	talking about dredging and doing most of this work in the
	17	summer. The summer. That is the key time of economic
	18	development in this community; that is the time when
	19	resources come, when visitors come, and in addition to that,
	20	the sea life and what's happening in the ocean is completely
	21	different in the days of the summer versus the winter.
	22	So now they're not even in compliance with the
	23	terms that they've allowed to be put into the EIS to begin
	24	with, and so everything they're going to do is going to
	25	impact everything around it in ways that have not actually
	26	

CM1-13      Comment noted.

CM1-14      Based on our *Notice of Schedule for Environmental Review of the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project and the Northeast Connector Project*, which was issued on August 8, 2013, we assumed that construction would begin in the spring of 2014 in our analysis of impacts in the draft EIS. This is consistent with Transco's proposed schedule.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	15	
CM1-14 (cont'd)	1	been studied. Problem No. 75, I don't know.
CM1-15	2	Okay, the metering station that's going into an
	3	historic refurbished building. Whose idea was that? I
	4	swear I say all the time, I feel like I live in a Simpsons
	5	episode. You can't make up how ridiculous these ideas are.
CM1-16	6	So metering stations: It's not just like a meter, right?
	7	There's actual gas coming through there, changing pressure,
	8	being redirected. It is not far enough above the flood
	9	line of what we have already been impacted with here. We
	10	don't know, but we can only assume that will continue to
	11	rise, as climate change ads, as the temperature of the ocean
	12	rises.
	13	So we already know it's not in a safe position.
	14	In addition to that, I have recently gone up to Minisink
	15	where there are compressor stations and metering stations
	16	all over. I personally had less knowledge about how they
CM1-17	17	operate until I actually saw firsthand. So these are going
	18	to be releasing contaminants into the communities. These
	19	are toxins, these are radioactive, these are
	20	neurodisruptors, these are endocrine disruptors, these are
	21	hugely problematic gasses that are going to be falling up
	22	and down Flatbush Avenue, through into Jamaica Bay, into
	23	this bird and wildlife preserve. These are huge problems.
CM1-18	24	And in addition, as usual, no cumulative impacts are ever
	25	studied by any of the regulatory agencies. It's like mind-
	26	

CM1-15 Comment noted.

CM1-16 See the response to comment CM1-8.

CM1-17 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-11.

CM1-18 Cumulative impacts are discussed in Section 4.13 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

16

CM1-18  
(cont'd) 1 numbing to me how you can look at little bits and pieces and  
2 not see how the big picture operates.

CM1-19 3 This is what Transco Williams does on purpose.  
4 This is why they have separated out this project into a  
5 National Grid project and a federal project. So that it  
6 cannot be perfectly -- there can't be perfect oversight of  
7 it. There's city jurisdiction, there's state jurisdiction  
8 and there's federal jurisdiction. They're banking on the  
9 fact that the right hand and the left hand are not talking  
10 to each other, and that is a huge problem. And we're  
11 watching. I mean you can see -- they have said and they  
12 continue to act as if they're going to build and build and  
13 build on the National Grid section of this until they are  
14 stopped. They do it with impunity, time and again, and  
15 nobody stops them.

CM1-20 16 This entire construction project has been going  
17 on for weeks and months, round the clock, with out-of-state  
18 labor, with out-of-state, you know, putting up of people and  
19 feeding them. So it doesn't even bring the jobs or the  
20 support or the money or anything else that they promise when  
21 they make these great, grand plans of their safe energy.

CM1-21 22 Which is not safe. It is highly radioactive; it is coming  
23 from the Marcellus Shale, which can be up to 70 times more  
24 radioactive than the gas that we currently use. That is a  
25 problem. Not only is it dangerous and radioactive, not only  
26

CM1-19 Non-jurisdictional facilities, including National Grid's Brooklyn-Queens Interconnect (BQI) Project, are discussed in Section 1.4 of the EIS. Non-jurisdictional facilities are also included in our assessment of cumulative impacts in Section 4.13 of the EIS.

CM1-20 See response to comment CM1-19.

CM1-21 Section 4.11.1.5 of the EIS has been updated to include additional information about radon and the risk of radon in natural gas. Also see the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

17

CM1-21  
(cont'd) 1 is radon the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers, but  
2 in addition to that, it causes massive problems in  
3 pipelines. They have to be rebuilt every like five years  
4 because of the buildup of radioactive material.  
5 Is that anywhere in this plan? I don't think so,  
CM1-22 6 so we're going to go through and we're going to re-dredge  
7 the entire Jamaica Bay; we're going to pull up this stuff in  
CM1-23 8 the ocean? It's complete madness. It's not sustainable.  
9 It doesn't work. It doesn't build out a system that's safe  
10 for anybody; it doesn't help anybody, and it's highly  
11 explosive. Pipelines blow up all the time. You heard about  
12 San Bruno, right? You know why eight people died in San  
13 Bruno? Because the town was at a PTA meeting.  
14 When does that ever happen in New York City?  
15 Where everyone is somewhere else. Never. This is highly  
16 dangerous. Things explode, people die. Houses are  
17 destroyed. We already are rebuilding houses up and down  
18 this peninsula. There are still tons of people that are not  
19 back in homes, and they're certainly not living in safe  
20 places. And so what are we doing? We're building more  
21 explosives around them, because there's not enough risks in  
22 this community already, coming at us from every single  
23 direction.  
CM1-24 24 There's so much. Not to mention the fact that  
25 when we build out more infrastructure, all it does is put on  
26

CM1-22 No dredging is proposed within Jamaica Bay. Also see the response to comment CM1-29.

CM1-23 As discussed in Section 4.12 of the EIS, Transco would design, construct, operate, and maintain the proposed facilities in accordance with the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT's) Minimum Federal Safety Standards in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 192. These standards have been updated regularly. The current standards for new pipeline construction and materials are much stricter than those used for older pipelines, like the Pacific Gas and Electric pipeline which ruptured in San Bruno, California in 2010.

CM1-24 We assessed renewable sources of energy, such as solar, wind, and tidal energy (including planned projects), as alternatives to the Projects in Section 3.2.2 of the EIS. These renewable energy sources are, and we expect will continue to be, important in New York State in helping to diversify the electricity market and decrease the need for traditional fossil fuel energy sources. However, we do not believe conservation and renewable energy sources preclude National Grid's need for an additional natural gas delivery point on the Rockaway Peninsula or additional long-term supply to the Brooklyn-Queens area. Also see the responses to comments CM1-67 and CM1-74.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		18
CM1-24 (cont'd)	1	more pressure for more drilling. What we actually need to
	2	be doing is building infrastructure for safe, renewable,
	3	clean green local energy in this community.
	4	(Applause)
CM1-25	5	Put the people in the community in a place where
	6	there's an actual safe job that has a future in it, where
	7	it's not going away, where the jobs aren't being given to
	8	people from Minnesota and Texas and North Dakota. I talked
	9	to those guys building this pipeline; that's where they're
	10	from. They're not from here. This is not helping in any
CM1-26	11	possible way. The Rockaway is a perfect place for there to
	12	be solar, wind and tidal. That is what is safe, that is
	13	what is renewable, that is what is sustainable, and that is
	14	what is going to make this community able to re-power itself
	15	moving forward. That is what we need.
	16	(Applause)
CM1-27	17	Finally, the pipelines, as you know, are one of
	18	the worst regulated things in this country. At best, you
	19	might get every seven years, or let's see, we're going to
	20	look and see if a pipeline is leaking, how? Is there dead
	21	grass around it? What about the fact that this is going
	22	under the water? How do we know when it's leaking? How do
	23	we know when there's problems? We don't. Until there's a
	24	giant fish kill or there's something else going on, and by
	25	that point it's too late to address the problems.
	26	

CM1-25      Comment noted. See Section 4.9 of the EIS for additional details on socioeconomic conditions and impacts.

CM1-26      Renewable energy alternatives are discussed in Section 3.2.2 of the EIS.

CM1-27      Pipeline safety and inspection protocols are discussed in Section 4.12 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	19	
CM1-27 (cont'd)	1	You've seen time and again, if you watch the news
	2	at all, all it takes is a tiny little hole in any pipeline
	3	for massive leakage to happen. That's a huge problem. And
	4	when it's a gas pipeline, you can't even see it until
	5	there's actual repercussions of it.
CM1-28	6	This community deserves so much more than toxins
	7	and radioactives and explosives from a company that's just
	8	trying to buy them off with little trinkets. Instead, you
	9	guys need to be making this not okay, and we need to be
	10	investing in actual renewable future for the planet and for
	11	the Rockaways.
	12	(Applause)
	13	MR. BROWN: Grace Miller.
	14	MS. MILLER: Well, that's certainly a hard act to
	15	follow. I live in Rockaway, and we suffered through
	16	Superstorm Sandy, which was the most devastating storm that
	17	every hit Rockaway.
	18	We still haven't gotten our beaches dredged yet,
CM1-29	19	but this pipeline is proposing to dredge areas in Fort
	20	Tilden, and dig up more before we get our sand to replenish
	21	and keep us safe. This has to stop. We have to be
CM1-30	22	protected, and a pipeline that has toxic gas going through
	23	it will not protect us.
CM1-31	24	As a matter of fact, since most of us didn't even
	25	know about this meeting, I was able to have some time to
	26	

CM1-28 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-21. Renewable energy alternatives are discussed in Section 3.2.2 of the EIS.

CM1-29 Comment noted. The dredging would occur more than 0.5 mile offshore and no sediments would be permanently removed from the marine environment. Additionally, no dredging is planned onshore within Fort Tilden.

CM1-30 See the response to comment CM1-4 and CM1-11.

CM1-31 Historic pipeline accident data, including those attributed to Transco, are provided in Section 4.12.2 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CO11-19.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		20
CM1-31 (cont'd)	1	look up about this company. And so when this article, this
	2	week of natural gas leaks and explosions; for the week of
	3	June 3rd there were five explosions that are attributed to
	4	this company, Transco and Williams, throughout the country.
	5	There was one in South Nyack, New York; there was one in
	6	Greensboro, Georgia; there was one in Branchburg, New
	7	Jersey; there was one in Pennsylvania.
	8	So this is a company, in one week, that had this
	9	many explosions that want to build a pipeline through a
	10	small residential area. This has got to be stopped.
CM1-32	11	Also, the marine life. We had a beautiful end of
	12	summer, enjoying the whales that were riding around here.
	13	Yet, they're going to seek permission to harass the sea
	14	creatures that live here. Come on, we need a break here.
	15	We need this stopped, and we need this stopped now. Thank
	16	you.
	17	(Applause)
	18	MR. BROWN: Christina Arovitz. {ph}
CM1-33	19	MS. PIROVITS: Good evening. My name is
	20	Christina Pirovits and I am here as a user of Gateway
	21	National Recreation Area. For over four decades, Gateway
	22	National Recreation Area, America's first urban national
	23	park, has been used by millions of people for a wide range
	24	of activities: camping, bird watching, bicycling, walking,
	25	fishing, driving remote control cars, flying remote control
	26	

CM1-32 Impacts on marine species are discussed in Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. Impacts on marine mammals, including whales, are discussed in Section 4.5.2.2 of the EIS. Impacts on right whale, fin whale, and humpback whale are discussed in Section 4.7.1.1 of the EIS.

CM1-33 Recreational uses of the Gateway National Recreation Area (GNRA) as well as the potential impacts of the Rockaway Project on those uses are discussed in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

21

CM1-33  
(cont'd)

1 airplanes, kayaking, horseback riding, kite flying,  
2 swimming, running races, windsurfing, hiking, canoeing,  
3 archery, beachcombing, cross-country skiing, restoring  
4 historic aircraft, sailing, picnicking, golf, watching  
5 wildlife, gardening, star gazing, basketball, baseball, ice  
6 hockey, field hockey, kick ball, flag football, Lacrosse,  
7 gymnastics, ice skating, soccer, rock climbing, tennis,  
8 volleyball, metering and regulating natural gas -- what's  
9 wrong with the picture here?

10 (Laughter)

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MR. BROWN: Barbara Pearson.

14 MS. PEARSON: My name is Barbara Pearson  
15 (spelling). I am a user of Gateway National Recreation  
16 Area.

CM1-34

17 I oppose the siting of the metering and  
18 regulating station in Hangars 1 and 2 at Floyd Bennett Field  
19 because it is an inappropriate and illegal use of park land.  
20 The Draft EIS refers to comments in favor of the M&R station  
21 because Aviator Sports uses other hangars.

22 Aviator Sports is an appropriate use of the park  
23 land it's on. Aviator also represents a legitimate  
24 interpretation of the term 'adaptive for use.' Now I want  
25 you to understand this, I am no fan of Aviator; but

26

CM1-34

As discussed in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS, the National Park Service (NPS) has determined that issuance of a lease for the metering and regulating (M&R) facility within Hangars 1 and 2 meets the definition of appropriateness. Prior to approval of a right-of-way or lease agreement for the GNRA, the NPS will review the Rockaway Project for consistency with NPS management policies and requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). As the land managing agency, the NPS will determine the terms and conditions of the lease agreement for the M&R facility and the easement for the pipeline under applicable laws and regulations.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

22

CM1-34  
(cont'd)

1 objectively, I can only conclude that Aviator is an  
2 appropriate use because it provides recreation to users of  
3 Gateway National Recreation Area.  
4 Contrast that with the metering and regulating  
5 station. It provides no service or recreation to people who  
6 are using the park. Contrary to what Transco and NPS claim,  
7 it is in direct conflict with the goals of the Gateway  
8 general management plan because it makes the park land on  
9 which it is built completely off-limits to users of the  
10 Park; it provides no incentive to go to the Park, and in  
11 fact for many people, it would be a disincentive. It is  
12 also a perversion of the concept of adaptive reuse.

CM1-35

13 The New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement  
14 Act that the Draft EIS references did not get NPS and  
15 Transco what they were promised. Nor did it get Gateway  
16 what it was promised. U.S. Code Title 16 Section 1A-2K  
17 subjects leases to the following conditions: Buildings and  
18 Associated Property shall be used for an activity that is  
19 consistent with the purposes established by law for the unit  
20 in which the building is located. Shall not result in  
21 degradation of the purposes and values of the unit. And  
22 shall be compatible with National Park Service programs.  
23 The New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement  
24 Act does not exempt the lease for the M&R station from these  
25 conditions. In fact, it specifically states that the lease  
26

CM1-35

See the response to comment CM1-34.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

23

CM1-35

1 must be in accordance with that statute. Any lease  
2 agreement for the M&R station would violate that statute.  
3 Some of us here tonight may have been sold on  
4 this M&R station because they were told it would provide  
5 income to Gateway. But the law that Transco's pals passed  
6 does not guarantee that any of these lease proceeds will go  
7 to Gateway. This is the original wording of the law: Rent  
8 proceeds and other fees generated shall be deposited in a  
9 special account dedicated solely for use in the Gateway  
10 National Recreation Area.  
11 Now that sounds like a great thing for Gateway.  
12 But that is not what the final version of the law says.  
13 This is what it says: Proceeds from rental payments may be  
14 used at Gateway National Recreation Area. "May be used" is  
15 very, very different from "shall be deposited in a special  
16 account dedicated solely for use in the Gateway National  
17 Recreation Area."  
18 As worded, the law allows for discretion in how  
19 that money is used; and if you think that the Secretary of  
20 the Interior's discretion would never involve screwing  
21 Gateway out of this money, then I have a bridge I'd like to  
22 sell you.  
23 (Laughter)  
24 The language of the law is very simple, and I  
25 have printouts to give anyone who wants to read it. This  
26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

24

CM1-36 | 1 project has been in the works for at least four years.  
2 Virtually none of us here tonight knew anything about it  
3 until after deals were made, testimony was given, and laws  
4 were passed.

5 Transco did not take the timely steps to inform  
6 the public that they claimed to have taken, and the FERC  
7 staff is not taking them to task for that. NPS also  
8 violated its own policies on public engagement.

CM1-37 | 9 I came here tonight because I have a problem with  
10 being lied to. If anyone else here has a problem with being  
11 lied to, I'll be --

12 AUDIENCE: Yes.

13 (Applause)

14 I'll be at the back of the room tonight with  
15 detailed information on the illegality of putting this  
16 metering and regulating station in our park. I and others  
17 intend to mount a legal challenge if NPS enters into a  
18 leasing agreement to put this metering and regulating  
19 station in our park, and we welcome your help. Thank you.

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21 (Applause)

22 MR. BROWN: Gay Snyder.

23 MS. SNYDER: Good evening. Thank you for giving  
24 me the opportunity to make a presentation tonight to  
25 staunchly oppose the Rockaway Lateral Project.

26

CM1-36 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM1-37 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

25

1                   My name is Gay Snyder, and I live not too far  
CM1-38 2           from here. My family and I are frequent park users; we've  
3           gone hiking at Floyd Bennett Field, gardening, picnics,  
4           nature watching, et cetera. I hope you will not allow  
5           Transco to build this misplaced behemoth.  
6                   In addition to my arguments, by the way, I rely  
7           on all the other arguments raised by others in opposition to  
8           this project. I happen to be an attorney with trial  
9           experience here in New York City and the New York area.  
CM1-39 10          FERC in a sense is acting as a judge and jury in a trial. I  
11         am asking FERC, as judge and jury over the Rockaway Lateral  
12         Project to rule against this project and to deny Transco's  
13         application.  
14                  In rendering a verdict, one of the most important  
15         things a jury must consider is the believability of the  
16         evidence such as the documents or witness testimony. In New  
17         York, one of the most important instructions a judge gives a  
18         jury is the principle of falsus in uno. A judge often tells  
19         a jury before deliberation that, and is a pattern jury  
20         instruction: "If you find that any witness has willfully  
21         testified falsely as to any material fact or important  
22         matter, the law permits you to disregard completely the  
23         entire testimony of that witness upon the principle that one  
24         who testifies falsely about one material fact is likely to  
25         testify falsely about everything."  
26

CM1-38           Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

CM1-39           Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	26
CM1-39 (cont'd)	<p>1 Based upon that principle, I'm asking FERC to</p> <p>2 deny the application because Transco has lied, and told</p> <p>3 untruths.</p> <p>4 (Applause)</p> <p>5 And therefore, if they tell one material untruth,</p> <p>6 you should not believe anything they submit to you. This is</p> <p>7 a multimillion dollar project with the potential for a huge</p> <p>8 environmental impact, and you can't trust this company to</p> <p>9 build this project.</p>
CM1-40	<p>10 To start with, in the papers that they filed,</p> <p>11 Transco used the number 647,000 decatherms to justify the</p> <p>12 project, to convince Congress that H.R. 2606 should pass.</p> <p>13 But that number was misleading, since only a small</p> <p>14 percentage of that is new supply. The implication in their</p> <p>15 papers was that they would be a new supply of gas of 647,000</p> <p>16 decatherms. That was misleading. Most of the gas of the</p> <p>17 647,000 decatherms is really coming from Long Beach.</p>
CM1-41	<p>18 Related to this first lie, in their 7C</p> <p>19 application, Transco claimed that the Rockaway Lateral</p> <p>20 Project would deliver 640 decatherms of gas a day to</p> <p>21 National Grid. The truth is, the Rockaway Lateral Project</p> <p>22 cannot deliver that amount of gas unless it's connected to</p> <p>23 another project, such as the Northeast Connector Project.</p>
CM1-42	<p>24 In the 7C application, and particularly Section</p> <p>25 9, for example, Transco did not tell the public or FERC</p> <p>26</p>

CM1-40 See the response to comment CM1-12. The delivery services and the amount of new incremental supply that would be provided by the Projects are described in Section 1.1 of the EIS.

CM1-41 The relationship between the Rockaway and Northeast Connector Projects is discussed in Section 1.0 of the EIS.

CM1-42 See comment response CM1-41.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

27

CM-42  
(cont'd)

1 about the critical interplay of these two separate projects.  
2 They were misleading right from the beginning. Intervenor  
3 discovered this connection when FERC issued paperwork; I  
4 think it was in April, stating that the two projects were  
5 related. That's the first time that I realized the two  
6 projects were related.

7 Transco misrepresented the benefit of the  
8 Rockaway Lateral Project even though it knew about these two  
9 separate projects.

CM1-43

10 Another example of Transco's lies is the record  
11 includes a letter from Atlantic Sea Island, an LNG supplier,  
12 dated July 2009 accusing Transco of lying. Atlantic Sea  
13 Island points out that Transco's resource report No. 10,  
14 which is part of the prefilling, is not factual. Transco  
15 claimed that no LNG developer contacted Transco regarding  
16 the New York Lower Bay Extension. The truth pointed out by  
17 Atlantic Sea was that Transco met face-to-face with Atlantic  
18 Sea. Atlantic Sea Island writes: "We cannot understand  
19 why Transco would supply you with misleading information."  
20 And frankly, I don't condone that, either, and FERC should  
21 not tolerate that.

CM1-44

22 I along with other park users -- and here's  
23 another example of a lie: I myself personally, with other  
24 park users, met with Transco last year about the Rockaway  
25 Lateral Project. They knew we were upset by the project and  
26

CM1-43

Proposed liquefied natural gas (LNG) facilities, including Atlantic Sea Island's Safe Harbor LNG Project and Liberty Natural Gas, LLC's Port Ambrose Project, are discussed in Section 3.3.8 of the EIS. None of the proposed LNG projects discussed in this section are related to the proposed Transco Projects, nor are the proposed Transco Projects dependent on any of these proposed LNG facilities. Transco indicated in its application that developers of potential LNG facilities in the region have looked at the Transco system as a possible outlet for their projects. Transco has not taken a position on these projects but responds to any inquiries from developers, as it does for any entity that requests information, consistent with its legal obligation to do so as an operator of an open-access pipeline.

CM1-44

Comment noted. As discussed in Sections 1.2.2 and 4.8.2 of the EIS, Transco coordinated with the NPS and local congressional leaders to introduce HR 2606. Also see the response to comment CM1-34.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

28

CM1-44  
(cont'd)

1 the use of the hangars for the metering station. Transco  
2 represented that H.R. 2606 only allowed the National Park  
3 Service to discuss the leasing of Hangars 1 and 2. That was  
4 a lie.

5 The purpose of that bill and subsequent statute  
6 was to attempt to alter the law concerning the use of park  
7 lands and to try to allow the placement of the metering  
8 station in historic hangars in Floyd Bennett Field. Transco  
9 knew this; they knew that the project was way beyond  
10 allowing mere discussions, and at the same time that they  
11 were telling us, the park users, that this point about  
12 merely allowing discussions, Transco was engaging in some  
13 work inside Hangars 1 and 2 with the full expectation that  
14 the bill would pass; and I know that there was work, some  
15 type of work being done there because I go there almost  
16 every day, and I saw the trucks.

CM1-45

17 Another example of a lie: Exhibit 3 of their 7C  
18 application is titled, Information Regarding Public  
19 Outreach. Included in it is a newspaper notice from  
20 Williams Transco announcing the April 2012 meetings of which  
21 they state that they and National Grid are quote, "In the  
22 early stages of the siting of the project." That was a lie.  
23 The project was already at least three years in the making;  
24 testimony had already been made in Congress about the  
25 project; H.R. 2606, that bill, had already been introduced.

26

CM1-45

Comment noted. See the responses to comments CM1-1, CM1-19, and CM1-40.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

29

CM1-45  
(cont'd)

1 They were more in the home stretch than the early stages of  
2 planning.  
3 The Mayor had issued a negative declaration  
4 regarding the work on Flatbush Avenue in 2011. So in spite  
5 of what Transco wrote in Exhibits Z of their 7C application,  
6 they were not just exploring the possible placement of the  
7 project; they had taken significant steps to make it happen.

CM1-46

8 So these are just some examples of the  
9 disingenuous and misleading statements made by Transco; and  
10 for this reason and all the other reasons mentioned by  
11 everyone else, we ask that FERC deny the application. Thank  
12 you.

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 MR. BROWN: Donna Stein.

16 MS. STEIN: Hi, my name is Donna Stein. I'm with  
17 New York City Friends of Clearwater. I also work with  
18 Occupy the Pipeline.

19 New York City Friends of Clearwater, along with  
20 its parent company, Hudson River Sloop Clearwater, was  
21 founded about clean water, about starting to clean up the

CM1-47

22 Hudson River, clean up our waterways. This is an  
23 abomination. There's something wrong with this picture  
24 right here. This, as somebody else pointed out, this place  
25 should be packed.

26

CM1-46 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

CM1-47 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

30

CM1-47  
(cont'd)

1 I came off the subway tonight and I talked to  
2 people who did not even know. They're in the community,  
3 they did not even know. They come here to this place, they  
4 don't know that this hearing wasn't going on tonight. This  
5 should not be allowed. You should not have had this hearing  
6 unless you had announced it properly to the public, properly  
7 to the people who are affected.

8 There is, the EIS statement should be allowed to  
9 have a longer time to have responses; we should have 25  
10 meetings like this, and they should -- every one of them be  
11 packed.

CM1-48

12 Wouldn't it be interesting if there was an  
13 organization, if an organization that had 'federal' in the  
14 name was actually held accountable?

15 There has not been a pipeline that has been built  
16 that has not leaked; there's no company that does not have a  
17 history of explosions. Isn't that something that should be  
18 noticed and should be noted? Shouldn't there be scientists  
19 of both sides debating the facts? Shouldn't we have  
20 protection? The word 'federal' you think is going to  
21 protect us. We need to know that you have our backs.

22 As far as I can tell, as far as I've heard, the  
23 FERC has never found a pipeline they did not like. Right?

24 We need to stop that. We need to make a whole  
25 change. We need a system change.

26

CM1-48 Comment noted. See the response to CM1-168.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

31

1 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MR. BROWN: J.K. Canepa.

4 MS. CANEPA: My name, as far as this purpose, is  
5 Judith K. Canepa. And I live in Manhattan; I was affected  
6 by the hurricane; not to the same extent, but we felt it  
7 pretty strongly.

8 My connection here is that I work out here. I  
9 work in the adult homes up and down the Rockaways. I've  
10 been doing that for over seven years. And I became very  
11 connected to the people of the adult homes and to the people  
12 of the Rockaways.

CM1-49

13 When I heard about the pipeline, the Coalition  
14 Against the Rockaway Pipeline, organized to stop a high  
15 pressure gas pipeline coming through a flood zone in an area  
16 that had been so devastated, so devastated that I saw for  
17 myself cars on top of each other. I saw, three stories  
18 high, sand blown from the sea, blown from the sea floor.

19 I saw people huddling, cold. I saw the damage  
20 that was done here; and to think that that didn't affect the  
21 progress of this pipeline was shocking to me. To think that  
22 Williams Transco in their application, in their answers to  
23 FERC about taking a second look at the flood zone after such  
24 a devastating storm, their response was: No significant  
25 change.

26

CM1-49

See the response to comment CM1-8.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

32

CM1-49  
(cont'd)

1           What we saw last -- what they reported last July  
2           was that a storm of the nature that FERC was concerned about  
3           is not likely to happen, very often, maybe every hundred  
4           years, they are talking about an old fashioned term, the  
5           hundred year storm. It's like the hundred year war or the  
6           hundred day old egg; it's just a word, doesn't mean  
7           anything.

8           And whatever that time period was between those  
9           massive storms has shortened, but the term stays the same.  
10          But not to Williams Transco. Williams Transco claims that  
11          after they did a follow up study to fulfill what was  
12          required of them by FERC, they did a study and they released  
13          it last spring; and their findings, their wonderful  
14          scientific findings were that there's not much difference  
15          between the risk of an accident or a flood now as there was  
16          before last October. I find that very interesting.

CM1-50

17          I find it very concerning that the president of  
18          the American Gas Workers Association was quoted as saying --  
19          I'm going to paraphrase. He said: If a regulator facility  
20          -- he used the word 'vault' so I'm giving that cautionary  
21          step, but a container for a regulator valve -- if such a  
22          facility is hit with water and the water rushes over it and  
23          recedes immediately, the valve should continue to work. But  
24          if it remains submerged for a significant period of time,  
25          like a day and a half, then the risk of corrosion,  
26

CM1-50

Section 4.1.4.3 of the EIS has been updated to address the potential for over-pressurization in downstream distribution pipelines if a regulator valve becomes stuck in the open position due to salt water corrosion in the event of submersion due to flooding.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

33

CM1-50  
(cont'd)

1 especially from salt water, is so great that that regulator  
2 valve is likely to fail.

3 If the regulator valve fails, that pressure --  
4 which can come in as high as 960 pounds per square inch -- I  
5 can't conceive of 960 pounds of pressure going through a  
6 square inch of pipe. I don't know what that would be like.  
7 But if that pressure coming in from the lower New York Bay  
8 Lateral, the main feeder line, if that pressure comes in to  
9 a regulator valve that isn't functioning because it's been  
10 submerged by a storm -- not even a storm, just by rising  
11 water -- then the pressure could shoot down the line--  
12 rather, up the line, and it could go into a home. That  
13 pressure could cause a massive explosion.

14 These pipes are 26 inches in diameter. There was  
15 an explosion in Allentown, Pennsylvania of a pipe that was 9  
16 inches in diameter. It blew up downtown; the cars were  
17 completely burned. Blocks of downtown were in flames. This  
18 was a 9-inch pipeline. We're talking about something three  
19 times in diameter.

20 If he's worried, I'm worried. I'm worried about  
21 leakage, I'm worried about what happens to the people of the  
22 Rockaways when that high pressure pipeline hasn't reached  
23 the regulator valve yet. It goes under the Rockaways. It  
24 goes under the Rockaway Inlet. It goes into Flatbush Avenue  
25 before the pressure is dampened down. I'm concerned about

26

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		34
CM1-50 (cont'd)	1	such a place as the Rockaways that have been so shaken up
	2	that the boardwalk ended up in people's back yards. I'm
	3	worried about something happening to those people, with all
	4	that pressure in the pipeline.
CM1-51	5	I'm worried about the leakage of pipelines.
	6	Pipelines always leak. They always, always leak. And
	7	eventually, many of them explode. The leakage of what?
CM1-52	8	We know from the website for Williams Transco
	9	that they're going to be getting their gas from the
	10	Marcellus Shale deposit. They have announced that on their
	11	website. The Marcellus Shale deposit is nearby, and it's
	12	extremely highly radioactive. It's full of radon and
	13	uranium. That gas is going to be sent into the pipeline,
	14	and it's going to leak. And it's going to be blown off at
	15	the metering and regulating station; that's how the pressure
	16	is given a chance to escape, it's blown off.
CM1-53	17	What's in that gas? Explosions. Well, there was
	18	an explosion of a 26-inch pipeline in San Bruno a few years
	19	ago, the same size pipeline that we're talking about. Nine
	20	people died. There was an explosion of a Williams
	21	compressor station last May; 13 workers were injured, 2 very
	22	seriously.
CM1-54	23	A few other things. The issue of building the
	24	pipeline later than announced. The pipeline was supposed to
	25	begin construction in the winter months, but because the
	26	

CM1-51 See the response to comment CM1-11.

CM1-52 See the response to comment CM1-21.

CM1-53 The risks of the pipeline and safety impacts are discussed in Sections 4.12.2 and 4.12.3 of the EIS. Also see the responses to comments CM1-23 and CM1-31.

CM1-54 See the response to comment CM1-14. Impacts on land uses are discussed in Section 4.8 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	35	
CM1-54 (cont'd)	1 questions placed to Williams were so voluminous, and 2 required constant rewording of their responses, the 3 construction has now been pushed off until spring and 4 summer. This is the most sensitive time for this area. As 5 has been said, it's sensitive ecologically, it's sensitive 6 economically, it's the worst possible scenario.	
CM1-55	7 I also just want to make a little point in that 8 our recent shutdown of the government kept us out of our 9 national parks. But the drilling continued out West. 10 (Applause) 11 I would like FERC to take note of that.	CM1-55 Comment noted.
CM1-56	12 And finally the issue of segmentation. This is 13 something that hasn't been completely clearly answered to me 14 or anybody else that I know of; but I don't understand why a 15 pipeline is considered a transmission pipeline coming into 16 the Rockaways, and then suddenly, magically, it becomes a 17 distribution pipeline leaving the Rockaways, and then all of 18 a sudden it reverts to a transmission pipeline again when it 19 goes into Floyd Bennett Field. 20 From what common sense tells me is that until 21 it's regulated down, we should call it a transmission 22 pipeline; and if it's a transmission pipeline, it's subject 23 to federal review. So I propose or I insist that the entire 24 length of the Rockaway Lateral pipeline be considered to go 25 from the Lower New York Bay Lateral all the way through the 26	CM1-56 Section 1.4 of the EIS has been updated to provide additional information on the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC or Commission) jurisdiction as it relates to the BQI Project.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont’d)

		36
CM1-56 (cont'd)	1	metering and regulating station, and that that needs to be
	2	reviewed.
	3	Thank you very much.
	4	(Applause)
	5	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	6	MR. BROWN: Maureen Healy.
	7	MS. HEALY: Hi. I've been thinking about what I
CM1-57	8	could say to FERC when FERC visited Rockaway. This is a
	9	specific place with specific history, a lot of it in the
	10	last year. And so much of this project was decided by
	11	industry and sad to say, our elected officials, and National
	12	Park Service before the public was sufficiently aware of it.
CM1-58	13	At about the time the public started to be aware
	14	of it, nature took over and this community had a very rapid
	15	education in the effects of drastic climate change. Our
	16	elected officials took little notice. On the day the House
	17	finally passed this bill, they passed this bill quickly, by
	18	a voice vote with no roll call, no accountability; and then
	19	they spent two hours, most of the afternoon, discussing the
	20	need to harden our shorelines to protect against climate
	21	change when they had just voted to create more climate
	22	change. Because methane is a climate-changing gas.
CM1-59	23	That is one thing I would really like FERC to
	24	understand. I would like FERC, if there are more than you,
	25	Kara, I would like everybody to go down just a little west
	26	

CM1-57 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM1-58 Comment noted.

CM1-59 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

37

CM1-59  
(cont'd)

1 of here and visit a community called Breezy Point. You will  
2 see the effect of two things at Breezy Point. You will see  
3 the effect of Superstorm Sandy, and you will see the effect  
4 of massive gas fires. That took out -- I'm sure someone in  
5 this room knows how many homes were lost in Breezy.

6 AUDIENCE: 100.

7 MS. HEALY: Okay, took out over a hundred homes.  
8 The gas was not turned off.

9 This landscape here has a history. The part of  
10 the Rockaway Peninsula that I just told you about, Breezy  
11 Point, didn't even exist a hundred years ago. Some of this  
12 I learned from the archaeological documentation filed at  
13 FERC. Where the metering and regulating station will be,  
14 before it was an airfield, it was a place called Barren  
15 Island, it was just an island. It got connected to the  
16 mainland by a lot of landfill and a century of toxic  
17 dumping.

18 That is part of the history here. That's what's  
19 underneath us. The Rockaway Peninsula, from the Marine Park  
20 Bridge west did not exist. That was landfill and tidal  
21 action that built up that part of the Peninsula.

CM1-60

22 Now we know how vulnerable this area can be in a  
23 storm. This part of Rockaway is probably like four blocks  
24 wide. The ocean sometimes meets the bay. The part of the  
25 Peninsula where the pipeline is supposed to go through is no

26

CM1-60

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-8.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

38

CM1-60  
(cont'd)

1 wider. This is a really volatile landscape. I don't know  
2 why you would put a really volatile piece of infrastructure  
3 in a really volatile landscape. It's a recipe for trouble.

4 And it's a methane pipeline. It's going to --  
5 burning that gas that comes in that pipeline is going to  
6 cause more of what we all know we fear now. I hope you will  
7 take this to heart and I hope you will take this into your  
8 minds, too, and work with it rationally.

CM1-61

9 J.K. already talked about the flooding and the  
10 siting of the M&R Station. I mean, the marina is just on  
11 the other side of Flatbush Avenue. The storm surge was 13  
12 or 14 feet during Sandy. How much does it take to imagine  
13 we might have another storm with a 15 or 16 foot surge?

14 On a recent set of drawings of the metering and  
15 regulating station, I saw a measurement for the floor of  
16 13.9 above mean sea level. That's not high enough.

CM1-62

17 Final thing that I want to say, and this won't be  
18 short but it is the final category of things I want to say.  
19 I was shocked at the end of last week to see the 543  
20 additional pages from Williams Transco, that came out two  
21 weeks after you published your Draft Environmental Impact  
22 Statement. But why don't they take you seriously? You  
23 should demand that they take you seriously, because you  
24 stand between a voracious industry and all of us regular  
25 people. We depend on you.

26

CM1-61

Comment noted. See the responses to comments CM1-8 and CM1-50.

CM1-62

Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

39

1 (Applause)

CM1-63

2 I can tell they are putting incredible pressure  
3 on you to okay this project so that in spite of all the  
4 deadlines they missed, in spite of all the agencies who  
5 asked them questions and asked Williams Transco to answer by  
6 a certain date, and time and again during the FERC process,  
7 Transco did not answer on time.

8 And now, when they got in some of the things that  
9 were requested, came two weeks after the Draft EIS was  
10 filed, was published. Now they're putting pressure on FERC  
11 that they are going to build in the summertime? A lot of  
12 what they attested to during the whole process this year was  
13 that they would be doing their construction in the  
14 wintertime; marine life is low in the wintertime, there's  
15 nobody at the beach. When they do this summer construction,  
16 all of these toxins from the hundred year history of toxic  
17 dumping here, all of these are going to get stirred up.

18 I don't think they should get stirred up in the  
19 wintertime, either, but they sure shouldn't get stirred up  
20 in the summertime.

21 Feet from beachgoers, a really popular public  
22 beach. I'm sure that Williams Transco will put a lot of  
23 pressure on FERC. But this community was put on hold for  
24 the last year, and I would ask you to put them on hold.

25 (Applause)

26

CM1-63

See the response to comment CM1-14. Impacts on marine species are discussed in Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. Impacts on land uses are discussed in Section 4.8 of the EIS. Impacts on water quality are discussed in Section 4.3 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM1-85 regarding the potential for resuspension of contaminated sediments in the water column.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	40
CM1-61	1 The people here did not cause what happened to 2 them. FERC caused most of the delays. I think FERC owes it 3 to this community to do a draft, a Draft Environmental 4 Impact Statement of summer construction, because that was 5 never looked at, and also a Draft Environmental Impact 6 Statement of the portion of the pipeline that has been built 7 by National Grid that should be considered nothing other 8 than interstate transport, that the Environmental Protection 9 Agency advised FERC should come under their review. 10 Please do that for us so that we can rely on you. 11 Thank you. 12 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. 13 (Applause) 14 MR. BROWN: Catherine Skopik. 15 MS. SKOPIC: Good evening and thank you for this CM1-65 16 opportunity to give testimony. It's important, since this 17 is such a great issue, that all stakeholders have the 18 opportunity to voice their opinion, and it's very good that 19 you've extended the comment period to December 9th, but I'm 20 wondering if this is enough. 21 My name is Catherine Skopik, I'm an artist, an 22 art teacher and an environmentalist. I participated in the 23 Avantgarde Festival of New York that was held in Floyd 24 Bennett Field a while back. I have a watercolor painting in 25 the international archive of the National Museum of Women in 26

CM1-64 See the responses to comments CM1-14, CM1-19, and CM1-56.

CM1-65 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

41

1 the Arts. I taught art in the Mineola school district for  
2 over 30 years on all levels, and for eight years,  
3 undergraduate and graduate students at Long Island  
4 University, C.W. Post.

5 As an artist working with the creative process,  
6 you are almost completely being subjective. It's like open-  
7 ended problem solving. As an art educator, one is also  
8 primarily working with the subjective process, sometimes  
9 objective. However, as an environmentalist, in addition to  
10 having the subject of appreciation of the beauty of  
11 creation, one is working with objectivity. Science  
12 contributes research, facts, data, measurable results. And  
13 I've been studying scientific earth research as a  
14 representative to the United Nations, citizen and parent.

CM1-66

15 I will make three specific points. One, some of  
16 the most startling facts regarding the issue of this  
17 Rockaway pipeline are those relating to safety, many of  
18 which have been already mentioned. Since 1986, pipeline  
19 accidents have killed more than 500 people -- that's more  
20 than 500 people. They have injured over 4,000 people;  
21 that's injured over 4,000 people. And caused nearly \$7  
22 billion --that's 7 billion with a 'b' in property damage in  
23 the United States.

24 So we can hear that this may not be the most safe  
25 thing that we'd like to do. Is this pipeline really worth  
26

CM1-66

See the responses to comments CM1-23, CM1-31, and CM1-53.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	42	
CM1-66 (cont'd)	1	the risk?
CM1-67	2	Two, renewable energy sources have the potential
	3	to supply all the energy we need; we don't even need gas.
	4	Mark Jacobsen of Stanford University, along with Robert
	5	Howerth and Anthony Ingraffia {ph} of Cornell University have
	6	put together a plan for New York State to be renewable by
	7	2030, and I have an overview of this plan I'm going to give
	8	to you.
	9	And it is a viable road map to renewable energy
	10	that will not harm the planet as do fossil fuels and
CM1-68	11	methane, that cause extreme weather, superstorms, droughts,
	12	floods, melting of glaciers, rising sea levels, heating
	13	oceans, ocean acidification, dying of coral reefs. It is a
	14	proven fact that although it burns clean, from extraction to
	15	delivery gas is more greenhouse gas-producing than is coal.
CM1-69	16	Some of you may know that less than two percent
	17	of the earth's water is drinkable. Some people call it
	18	'sweet water.' And most of that is tied up in the glaciers.
	19	And unfortunately, I think half the world has gone shale gas
	20	crazed. Right now up in New Brunswick there's a standoff,
	21	the Micmac Nation and others are helping them, because
	22	they've been given permission to come in and frack on their
	23	land.
	24	I picked up the newspaper today. On the front
	25	page of business, Argentina has made a deal with Chevron to
	26	

CM1-67 Section 3.2.2 of the EIS has been updated to discuss the study by Jacobson et al. (2013).

CM1-68 The issue of the relative life-cycle emissions of burning natural gas versus burning coal is not the subject of this EIS. See Section 1.1 of the EIS for a description of the purpose and need for the Projects.

CM1-69 Impacts on groundwater and surface water associated with the Projects are discussed in Sections 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 of the EIS, respectively. Also see the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

43

CM1-69  
(cont'd)

1 go in and get shale gas out of it. Do you know that to  
2 frack, each well takes thousands of gallons of water.  
3 That's water we are not going to have to drink. And we  
4 don't have to go far to realize the problem that that can  
5 present. We only have to go to the Midwest where people are  
6 already arguing and debating and next to fighting over who's  
7 going to get the water.

8 So people are taking this precious commodity and  
9 using it to get gas. We can't live on gas; but we can't  
10 live without water. So any industry that would remove this  
11 much water from the hydrologic cycle cannot be supported.

12 Three. I paddled my kayak down the Hudson River  
13 this summer with about 200 native and nonnative people in  
14 celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Two Row Wampum.  
15 And this is a treaty between the Haudenosaunee and the  
16 natives, which at that time were the Dutch. And this treaty  
17 recognizes our friendship and the responsibility that we  
18 have to care for Mother Earth.

CM1-70

19 Indigenous peoples live in harmony with the  
20 earth. When a decision has to be made, they do not think of  
21 themselves; they think of seven generations from now. How  
22 will this decision affect them? If we could zoom forward  
23 now to the seventh generation and see the faces of those  
24 children, what would we tell them? Would we tell them that  
25 no matter what side of the issue we were on we came  
26

CM1-70

Comment noted.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

44

CM1-70  
(cont'd)

1 together, that we decided that the time of greed and  
2 desiccation and exploitation was over.  
3 We decided to act for them, for the protection of  
4 Mother Earth. Is this what we would tell them? Will you  
5 help us all make this decision today? Thank you.

6 MR. BROWN: Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MR. BROWN: Suzy Winkler.

9 MS. WINKLER: Suzy Winkler, Burlington Flats, New  
10 York.

11 Groups that I am connected to but not here to  
12 represent: I'm the cofounder of the Concerned Burlington  
13 Neighbors, I'm a member of the Coalition Against Unsafe  
14 Drilling, for Otsego County, New York, and I'm a member of  
15 Stop the Constitution Pipeline.

CM1-71

16 I oppose the Rockaway pipeline, knowing that the  
17 gas that will move through the pipe will be extracted from  
18 shale under properties that families in Pennsylvania who are  
19 already suffering the consequences of living in an  
20 industrial zone.

21 While some of those families may have accepted  
22 the terms of shale gas extraction leases knowing the risks  
23 and willing to gamble on those odds, many leaseholders were  
24 lied to and fooled into thinking that the extraction and  
25 transportation delivery systems would be safe, and that

26

CM1-71

Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

45

CM1-71  
(cont'd)

1 living above them would afford them great wealth; free if  
2 not inexpensive gas, energy independence for the United  
3 States, and insignificant changes to their way of life.

4 But many residents and property owners now living  
5 in those simmering communities were given no such option;  
6 they are mere neighbors of those who made the decision for  
7 them. They are the unfortunate who live downstream of the  
8 well pads, water treatment facilities and dumping grounds,  
9 and/or downwind of the silica sand facilities, the pipelines  
10 and compressor stations. These neighbors reap no financial  
11 gain, just the ill effects to their health and loss of their  
12 property values. They've come to be known as 'collateral  
13 damage' just like folks all over the globe have.

14 I've spent the last four years learning, and now  
15 worrying that the same misfortunes may fall upon us here in  
16 New York. I live in Burlington, which is five hours  
17 Northwest of here; my 170 acres and home of 22 years sits on

CM1-72

18 top of the Marcellus and the Utica shales. My neighbors  
19 have signed onto leases thinking they would save their farms  
20 from foreclosure, or that they'd become shale-ionares, and  
21 leave their town for greener pastures before the traffic  
22 came, before their water went bad, or before their  
23 grandchildren developed asthma.

CM1-73

24 We New Yorkers living on the shale will be abused  
25 by the corporate world still farther. When the industry  
26

CM1-72

Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM-71.

CM1-73

Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	46	
CM1-73 (cont'd)	1	comes to take our gas, through a loophole known as
	2	'compulsory integration, or forced pooling' the fossil fuels
	3	that lay beneath our homes and farms will be extracted right
	4	out from under us. New Yorkers will have no way to say no,
	5	only three ways to say yes. A system that turns neighbor
	6	against neighbor and family members against each other.
	7	The citizens of New York know that this pipeline
	8	proposal equals shale gas extraction. And that it's only
	9	the beginning of a massive infrastructure build-out that
CM1-74	10	will consume our entire State. I believe it's disingenuous
	11	for the industry to promote natural gas as a greener energy,
	12	or a bridge fuel. And I believe it's unethical for FERC to
	13	continue on this path knowing that the fossil fuel
	14	extraction infrastructure will block the advancement of
	15	sustainable energy development and our climate crisis.
CM1-75	16	I know that most everything we say here FERC
	17	already knows. Still, you accept nearly every application
	18	that's put in front of you. I hope that the testimony given
	19	tonight is not an exercise in futility, that the repetition
	20	of our comments and our commitment to ban fracking will sink
	21	into the hearts and minds of those on this panel. You will
	22	realize that we are not going away.
CM1-76	23	I hope that he conscious of the FERC Board will
	24	begin to override this process for which, from the outset,
	25	is slanted against the public it is so cynical and so
	26	

- CM1-74 Comment noted. The FERC is responsible for evaluating applications it receives from project sponsors seeking authorization to construct and operate interstate natural gas facilities and determining whether these projects are in the public interest and represent environmentally acceptable actions. This EIS is part of that evaluation process.
- CM1-75 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.
- CM1-76 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	47	
CM1-76 (cont'd)	1	superficially intended to support. Thanks.
	2	MR. BROWN: Thank you.
	3	(Applause)
	4	MR. BROWN: Karen Orlando, you chose not to
	5	speak?
	6	MS. ORLANDO: I will speak later.
	7	MR. BROWN: What's that?
	8	MS. ORLANDO: I signed up to speak maybe later.
	9	MR. BROWN: Oh, okay, fine.
	10	Edie Kantrowitz.
	11	MS. KANTROWITZ: Okay, hi. That's Edie, E d i e,
	12	Kantrowitz, K a n t r o w i t z.
	13	And I'm with the Coalition Against the Rockaway
	14	Pipeline, New York City Friends of Clearwater, United for
CM1-77	15	Action. But I'm here as a concerned citizen. I don't live
	16	in Rockaway; I live in Brooklyn, but I think you've heard
	17	plenty tonight about just how vulnerable the community in
	18	Rockaway is, how strongly people don't want this gas
	19	pipeline here. You heard about what it's going to do as far
	20	as increasing fracking.
CM1-78	21	The Rockaway Pipeline is an inappropriate
	22	industrial use of our National Park Land. It's not what we
	23	should be doing in Gateway Recreation Area. It's going to
CM1-79	24	expose the surrounding areas to dangers from fires, from
	25	explosions, and possibly even from terrorism. We know this.
	26	

CM1-77 Comment noted.

CM1-78 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-34.

CM1-79 See the response to comment CM1-53. Additional safety and security issues, including terrorism, are discussed in Section 4.12.4 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		48
CM1-80	1	And it's going to increase our reliance on fossil fuels and
	2	it's going to exacerbate the climate change that caused
	3	Superstorm Sandy and that this Rockaway area has suffered so
	4	much from, and many other areas, you know, in the City and
	5	in the entire region.
	6	I don't want to be redundant, and we're here
	7	tonight to talk about a Draft EIS, an Environmental Impact
	8	Statement. So I want to look at some of the other things in
	9	the environment that will be affected by this project other
	10	than just human beings. Okay?
CM1-81	11	The Rockaway Pipeline will also have significant
	12	negative impacts for local fisheries, for marine wildlife
	13	and for a number of endangered, protected and rare species.
	14	Now some of the species that have been documented in the
	15	area where the construction will be taking place include the
	16	North Atlantic Right Whale, the Atlantic surgeon, Kimp's
	17	Ridley, loggerhead, green and leatherback sea turtles; four
	18	different varieties of sea turtles. And then we have birds,
	19	we have the roseate tern, the piping plover, the peregrine
	20	falcon, the barn owl, the short-eared owl and the red
	21	pigweed, seabeach amaranth, seabeach knotweed, and dune
	22	sands burr (ph) -- these are plant species, okay?
	23	Now the EIS, the Draft EIS, acknowledges that the
	24	construction activity is likely to affect adversely the
	25	Right Whale and Atlantic sturgeon, and may affect the
	26	

CM1-80 Comment noted.

CM1-81 Comment noted. Impacts on fisheries are discussed in Sections 4.8.4.1 and 4.9.6 of the EIS. Impacts on marine species (including benthic species) are discussed in Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. Impacts on threatened and endangered species are discussed in Section 4.7 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	49	
CM1-81 (cont'd)	1 leatherback sea turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, green sea 2 turtle, loggerhead sea turtle, roseate tern, piping plover, 3 and seabeach amaranth. 4 So beyond these special species, there are also 5 many other varieties of marine life that will be affected; 6 surf clams, mollusks, horseshoe crabs and a whole host of 7 what we call benthic organisms living on the sea floor. 8 Some of the acknowledged ways in which harm may come to 9 wildlife in the project include noise from pile driving and 10 other procedures in construction, the possibility of 11 collision with vessels, exposure to increased debris and 12 possible liquid spills, the possibility of interactions from 13 trenching and dredging equipment, the effects related to the 14 sea floor disturbance including the removal of forage 15 species and increased water turbidity, okay.	
CM1-82	16 Now we all know this because this is already in 17 the EIS. Williams Transco is so aware of the effects of its 18 activities and what they're likely to do, that as we know, 19 they have filed with NOAA a request to authorize Level B 20 incidental harassment of six marine mammal species. So 21 we're going to deliberately harass these marine mammals.	CM1-82 Comment noted.
CM1-83	22 And while Williams has indicated that they're going to 23 mitigate harms to marine wildlife by following procedures 24 like using a soft start when they start up the pile driver 25 hammer, or having observers to look out for whales and 26	CM1-83 Comment noted. Impacts on marine mammals and Transco's application to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) for an Incidental Harassment Authorization (IHA) are discussed in Section 4.5.2.2 of the EIS. Impacts on sea turtles are discussed in Section 4.7.1.3 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

50

CM1-83  
(cont'd)

1 turtles, it's not at all clear that these mitigation  
2 measures are going to be adequate.  
3 In many cases, Williams is relying on the idea  
4 that these harms will only be to individual animals, and  
5 that there are not going to be significant or species-wide  
6 population impacts. Well, if only a few sea turtles are  
7 going to be injured or possibly killed in interactions with  
8 trenching equipment, would you want to be one of those sea  
9 turtles? I mean, these creatures are so precious because we  
10 have so few of them. That's why they're an endangered and  
11 protected species. I don't see why we should be subjecting  
12 them to these kind of harms, these kind of dangers, for  
13 what? For a pipeline that we don't want? A pipeline that's  
14 going to bring us explosions and toxins and radioactive  
15 shale gas and increased superstorms?

16 I mean, this is what we want to kill our turtles  
17 and our whales for, so that we can have more environmental  
18 disasters and destructions? I don't think so.

CM1-84

19 Williams also says that the impacts on birds are  
20 going to be negligible. Well, that may or may not be true  
21 for the construction impasse, but they appear to be glossing  
22 over the results of operations going on 24/7 once the gas  
23 pipeline and metering station are actually operational. Are  
24 we really to believe that these emissions will have no  
25 effect on the surrounding ecosystems? And we haven't even  
26

CM1-84

Comment noted. Impacts on birds are discussed in Sections 4.5.2.3, 4.5.2.4, 4.5.3, 4.7.1.5, and 4.7.5 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

51

CM1-85 1 begun to speak about the effects on the marine ecosystem of  
2 the toxic substances that will be released during the  
3 dredging process. I think Maureen told you quite a bit  
4 about that later; are we going to believe that all this  
5 stuff is going to come up, it's not going to affect the  
6 fish, it's not going to affect the birds -- I mean, come on.

7 So I'm just going to conclude with two of the  
8 more outrageous issues that have been brought up tonight and  
9 how they affect wildlife. They call into question the  
10 entire validity of the biological analysis as far as I'm  
11 concerned.

CM1-86 12 First of all, as we said before, it's important  
13 to remember that this project has been inappropriately  
14 segmented. By exempting the National Grid Brooklyn-Queens  
15 interconnect section from the FERC process, the impacts on a  
16 whole other geographic area have been lost from public  
17 review. So I'm wondering what Williams was afraid we would  
18 find there if we really looked carefully at the impacts to  
19 the species in the National Grid part.

CM1-87 20 Also, in many, many instances, the Draft EIS  
21 tells us that impacts to a given species will be minimal  
22 because construction operations will be happening during the  
23 winter months when these species are not likely to be found  
24 in the waters in question. Well, guess what? Williams has  
25 just written, in the past few days, announcing that they  
26

CM1-85 The potential for encountering contaminated sediments in the Project area is discussed in Section 4.2.2 of the EIS. The potential effects of disturbed sediments on the marine environment are evaluated in Section 4.6.3 of the EIS. Based on the results of the sediment sampling conducted by Transco and our evaluation of the results, we have concluded it is unlikely that aquatic organisms or birds would be affected by the resuspension of contaminated sediments.

CM1-86 See the response to comment CM1-56. We included the BQI Project in our analysis of cumulative impacts on wildlife as discussed in Sections 4.13.6, 4.13.7, and 4.13.8 of the EIS. Additional information on impacts to species due to the BQI Project is provided in the New York City Office of the Mayor's Negative Declaration, which is attached as Appendix B.

CM1-87 See the response to comment CM1-14.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

52

CM1-87  
(cont'd)

1 expect construction will have to take place during the  
2 summer months due to delays that are -- guess whose fault?  
3 Well, I guess we might as well just throw away all those  
4 parts of the biological analysis based on winter  
5 construction. Too bad that's almost all of it.

CM1-88

6 This is just one more example of how Williams has  
7 been duplicitous and misleading with the public at every  
8 step of the project. We don't need this pipeline. We don't  
9 need its dangers and we don't need the environmental  
10 degradation that it will cause. It will far outweigh any  
11 alleged benefits to the public, and FERC should not approve  
12 the construction of this project.

13 Thank you.

14 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

15 (Applause)

16 MR. BROWN: Anne Basser.

17 MS. BASSEN: My name is Anne Bassen, not Anne  
18 Basser. I live in Brooklyn.

19 MS. HARRIS: Spell your last name, please.

20 MS. BASSEN: It's B a s s e n.

21 MR. BROWN: Oh, sorry.

22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

23 MS. BASSEN: I live in Brooklyn, but I didn't  
24 come to the Rockaways very often before the storm. When  
25 Hurricane Sandy hit, I came out here because I've been an  
26

CM1-88

Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

53

1 environmentalist most of my adult life. I'm a tree hugger,  
2 I'm an ocean swimmer, all those weirdo things.

3 I came out here to see climate change in my back  
4 yard. You hear about earthquakes all over the world; here  
5 it is, Brooklyn, New York, Queens, New York. A huge  
6 hurricane, climate change in your face. And I'm not a  
7 scientist, I'm not a researcher, but it doesn't take a  
8 scientist or a researcher to see that climate change is  
9 happening, it's happening much more rapidly than the EPA,

CM1-89 10 President Obama, FERC is admitting. You know, I don't have  
11 to read the EIS to know that this pipeline is going to have  
12 detrimental -- more than detrimental, you know catastrophic  
13 effects on this environment.

CM1-90 14 And I'm kind of outraged that you expect the  
15 public to read over a 900-page EIS. I mean, we're people,  
16 we're trying to just live. You know, the people out here  
17 especially after being impacted by the storm. I mean, how  
18 do you expect them, the average person to read through 900  
19 pages of technical comments, most of them not scientifically  
20 based from what I've heard.

CM1-91 21 I went on line for like a half an hour and I  
22 found all kinds of facts about what this pipeline will do.  
23 A half an hour, you know I'm not quoting them because my  
24 peers have been much more eloquent. So why can't FERC --  
25 you know, what's going on with that?

26

CM1-89 Comment noted.

CM1-90 Comment noted. Prior to the end of the comment period, the draft EIS was available for comment for 66 days. Additionally, we continued to receive and address comments past the end of the comment period.

CM1-91 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	54
CM1-91 (cont'd)	<p>1 I'm a choreographer and a swimmer, I'm not</p> <p>2 reading all these things, so why can't you guys do your job?</p> <p>3 It's your job to protect us. I once believed the EPA was</p> <p>4 going to protect me. Unfortunately, I'm really</p> <p>5 disillusioned; I'm disillusioned with FERC, disillusioned</p> <p>6 with President Obama.</p> <p>7 So please, I really urge you to do your job,</p> <p>8 protect us. You know this is not going to help us, it's</p> <p>9 going to really impact everyone here, and further</p>
CM1-92	<p>10 negatively. Also in the summer, come on, you're going to</p> <p>11 just do it in the summer when thousands of people come from</p> <p>12 Manhattan, Brooklyn, to swim, go to the beach. That's</p> <p>13 insane right there. Thank you.</p> <p>14 MR. BROWN: Thank you.</p> <p>15 (Applause)</p> <p>16 MR. BROWN: Dave Dou.</p> <p>17 MR. DOU: Hi, my name's Dave Dou, I'm from</p> <p>18 Brooklyn, New York. Thank you all for being here.</p> <p>19 You'll probably hear me without this; I've got a</p> <p>20 pretty loud mouth. (Laughter)</p>
CM1-93	<p>21 This <sup>here</sup> <del>year</del> is the most valuable substance on this</p> <p>22 planet; not natural gas, not plutonium, not gold, not even</p> <p>23 my mother's lasagna.</p> <p>24 (Laughter)</p> <p>25 This is the most valuable thing we have; our body</p> <p>26</p>

CM1-92 See the response to comment CM1-14.

CM1-93 The potential effects of the Projects on surface waters and ground water are assessed in Section 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 of the EIS, respectively. Potential cumulative impacts on water are evaluated in Sections 4.13.2 and 4.13.3 of the EIS. The potential direct effects of hydraulic fracturing activities on waters in the vicinity of where the fracturing is taking place is outside the scope of this EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

55

CM1-93  
(cont'd)

1 is 80 percent of this. Once we pollute it, it's gone. We  
2 are -- you know what the word is in Brooklyn -- we're  
3 screwed, right? Once this is gone, we're done.  
4 So if we can't protect our water and if you can't  
5 help us protect it, we're all kind of stuck with the  
6 question that is, 'what are we supposed to do?' If you're  
7 not going to do what we all know is right, and I've heard  
8 more common sense here tonight than I probably -- in  
9 Congress in a lifetime. Right here, you heard it all  
10 tonight, why we need to protect this.

11 The farms upstate are all flourishing, we're  
12 members of food coops, a lot of people in this group here,  
13 we're now getting food that's not being grown with lots of  
14 poisons, it's not being Monsanto-ized. So we're trying to  
15 protect what we have, what's left of this planet. What's  
16 been given to us, and that we are stewards of this planet.  
17 We're not supposed to come in here and just ruin it and then  
18 'See you next week, I'm going on vacation.' We need to  
19 protect this place for our kids, for your grandchildren, for  
20 everybody who is to come next.

CM1-95

21 So if we can't do it, I don't know who is  
22 supposed to do it. I mean, I don't think FERC should spell  
23 p i m p for these companies. I hate to sound like that, but  
24 I don't understand how -- I don't understand how my  
25 president and my governor can say "We're waiting for the  
26

CM1-94 Comment noted.

CM1-95 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		56
CM1-95 (cont'd)	1 science to come in to make sure that we're doing the right 2 thing with this natural gas and all." The science is in. 3 People are getting sick all across the country, and it's 4 painfully obvious what's going on. I mean, how can you miss 5 what's going on?	
CM1-96	6 So if you want to put the blinders on, pretend 7 you didn't hear anything you heard tonight, and you don't 8 care about what's going on in the planet, feel free to just 9 approve anything that these guys want. Germany is up to 40 10 percent renewables now. Between the wind and the solar and 11 geothermal, the answers are out there. The science is in, 12 we can do this. So it's politics.	
CM1-97	13 If you guys are ready to fight the oil companies 14 against this entrenched -- you know, that have come in, and 15 -- people are getting sick across the country, and these 16 guys are just coming in and intimidating people, they have 17 no rights anymore, they have nobody to turn to. So we're 18 turning to you to ask you to put the brakes on these people 19 and to stop this madness now. We need to save what's left 20 of our planet and enjoy life, and a good, healthy life. 21 Thank you very much for your time. 22 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. 23 (Applause) 24 MR. BROWN: Darren Katsidis. 25 MR. KATSIDIS: Hi, I'm Darren. 26	

CM1-96 See the responses to comments CM1-24, CM1-67, and CM1-69.

CM1-97 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	57
	1 MR. BROWN: Please spell your last name for the
	2 court reporter.
	3 MR. KATSIDIS: K a t s i d i s.
CM1-98	4 You would think that the makers and the builders
	5 of this pipeline, laying it through sensitive Jamaica Bay
	6 ecosystems, through fragile wetland tidal and marsh lands,
	7 through a national park, and ultimately to deliver gas to
	8 Brooklyn and Queens, would consider the environmental
	9 impacts of doing so. And would be trying to mitigate the
	10 risks as much as possible.
CM1-99	11 There has already been a run-in with Williams
	12 Transco and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over how far
	13 deep they're going to trench for the laying of the pipeline.
	14 And this goes to show you that if they're really going to
	15 try to mitigate risks, then why are they going to have all
	16 these -- why are they having these run-ins with the
	17 regulatory agency? If they really cared, they would be
CM1-100	18 taking these considerations into consideration and not
	19 trying to sort of go through, or rush through with this
	20 proposal.
	21 So it seems to me that it's a very hasty proposal
	22 and hasn't been sort of thought through well enough; the
	23 community of Rockaways is being maybe perceived as a
	24 sacrificial lamb for Williams Transco, and that's just
	25 unacceptable to the people of the Rockaways, to the people
	26

CM1-98	The EIS describes the environmental impacts of the Projects, mitigation measures identified by Transco, and mitigation measures identified in our recommendations. No portion of the Rockaway Project would be built within Jamaica Bay. Impacts on wetlands and on NPS lands would be avoided by installing the pipeline under the shoreline using the horizontal directional drill (HDD) construction method.
CM1-99	Comment noted.
CM1-100	Comment noted. Mitigation of environmental impacts is discussed throughout the EIS. Safety is discussed in Section 4.12 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

58

CM1-100 (cont'd) 1 of New York State. And I ask EERC to put the brakes to this  
2 project and not let Williams Transco bet with their money  
3 instead of with an actual scientific proposal that mitigates  
4 risks.  
5 So I say put the brakes on it, and that's it.  
6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
7 (Applause)  
8 MR. BROWN: Ava Berman.  
9 MS. BERMAN: Hello, good evening. My name is Ava  
10 Berman.  
11 My name is Ava Berman, I'm a native of the Bronx  
CM1-101 12 and a grad student at Baruch in public policy, and I oppose  
13 the Rockaway pipeline project. Given the devastating impact  
14 of Superstorm Sandy on the Rockaway communities, any risk or  
15 potential for adverse environmental impact is too much risk  
16 for the Rockaways.  
CM1-102 17 In addition, this pipeline has great potential to  
18 damage the ecologically sensitive seabase of Jamaica Bay  
19 with disruption to flora and fauna in the area. It puts  
CM1-103 20 beachgoers, park users, and area residents at risk. As  
21 pipeline leaks, as we have seen through many of the previous  
22 speakers, are common.  
CM1-104 23 It promotes fracking, a procedure that  
24 empirically threatens human health and the environment.  
25 Because the project is so costly, it puts economic pressure  
26

CM1-101 Comment noted.

CM1-102 No portion of the Rockaway Project would be built within Jamaica Bay.

CM1-103 See the responses to comments CM1-23, CM1-31, and CM1-53.

CM1-104 See the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		59
CM1-104 (cont'd)	1	on Williams Transco to continue pumping gas through, and the
	2	only new sources of gas at this time are extracted from
	3	shale formations.
CM1-105	4	This gas is radioactive. Shale gas from the
	5	Marcellus has extremely high levels of radon, the second
	6	highest cause of lung cancer in the U.S., which further puts
	7	residents and local species at risk.
CM1-106	8	Lastly, the designated site for the pipeline's
	9	regulating station is only two feet above Sandy's storm
	10	surge; thus another superstorm could result in a devastating
	11	fire or pipeline leak.
CM1-107	12	Far too often in the construction of pipelines;
	13	i.e., Spectra in Manhattan, do we see human health and
	14	environmental safety trumped by corporate influence and
	15	short-term economic profit. Tonight we are speaking out and
	16	saying that we don't want this project. It's time for
	17	public policy and infrastructure projects to speak for the
	18	communities who are actually impacted by their enactment.
	19	Thank you.
	20	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	21	(Applause)
	22	MR. BROWN: Jose Valez.
	23	MR. VALEZ: Good evening. It's Jose Valez, J o s
CM1-108	24	e V e l e z. I would first like to say that I received
	25	the e-mail regarding this event yesterday, and I'm just a
	26	

CM1-105 See the response to comment CM1-21.

CM1-106 Comment noted. See the responses to comments CM1-8 and CM1-50.

CM1-107 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

CM1-108 See the response to comment CM1-1.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	60	
CM1-108 (cont'd)	1	little disturbed that there is not enough leeway to allow
	2	the public to comment on these things that are happening on
	3	this pipeline.
CM1-109	4	I've got to tell you, I'm going to use another
	5	word, but this is some scary stuff. This is some really
	6	scary stuff. The fact that we would allow this pipeline to
	7	be built, when we already know that there are some very
	8	negative environmental impacts is not right, it's not right.
	9	And I implore you -- I'm going to make it very
	10	simple. I implore you, the federal government, to stop
	11	this. This is a David and Goliath moment. You are our
	12	weapon, you're the only ones that can prevent this event
	13	from going through. As a lot of my neighbors here in
	14	Rockaway and on this planet have said, "This is a really bad
	15	idea."
CM1-110	16	A really bad idea. And there's not enough of us
	17	here, and I ask that you hold, in addition to tomorrow's
	18	event, another public comment period. And you really go out
	19	there --
	20	(Applause)
	21	-- really go out there and get people to come here. I think
	22	you need to do a better job in letting the public know that
	23	these meetings are going on.
	24	(Applause)
	25	And so I live in Rockaway. I know that we're the
	26	

CM1-109 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

CM1-110 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		61
CM1-111	1	little guy, we don't have deep pockets, we don't have enough
	2	of a say, but again I ask you to realize that you're here
	3	for us, not for the oil companies, not for the gas
	4	companies, not for them but for the people. I ask you to
	5	truly represent the people of this community. Thank you.
	6	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	7	(Applause)
	8	MR. BROWN: Eric Grogan.
	9	MR. MCGREGOR: Last name is McGregor,
	10	M c G r e g o r.
	11	MR. BROWN: Correct. Wow.
	12	MR. MCGREGOR: Well, my name is Eric McGregor,
CM1-112	13	I'm a resident of Brooklyn. I'm opposing this project, and
	14	I want to start with something that we start finding very
	15	true, that the FERC is silent and it's not a funny
	16	statement, but it's a very sad and dangerous statement for
	17	us.
CM1-113	18	We are finding all these situations, and
	19	personally I don't see any reaction from FERC. I like all
	20	these reports, all these studies that are put up front to
	21	give permission to these companies to come and poison us;
	22	and the thing that I see is a pattern of these studies and
	23	these documents that are put out is that there is no
	24	accountability at all.
	25	And the problem is that we face that, the --
	26	

CM1-111 Comment noted.

CM1-112 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted. See the response to comment CM1-168.

CM1-113 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

62

CM1-114

1 Spectra pipeline in the West Side Highway, when we have  
2 meetings with Spectra pipeline officials and we have  
3 meetings-- Con Edison, which is the company that will  
4 transport the gas, and we ask for accountability. A special  
5 pipeline said that they are not liable, and they are not  
6 liable, they are not forced to give any help or  
7 environmental studies. Same thing with Con Edison, because  
8 they only transport the commodity; and both point to FERC  
9 for that kind of answers. And we never see any cite of who  
10 is liable and how much it's going to cost or how these  
11 companies are going to be brought to justice when something  
12 happens. We do not see that, and that means that somebody  
13 is not doing their job.

CM1-115

14 Regulate means to control or direct by a rule,  
15 principle method to adjust to standard or requirement as  
16 amount, degree, to adjust so as to ensure accuracy of  
17 operation. that's what we want from you guys. We want your  
18 support on this, because so far what is happening in  
19 Pennsylvania, it seems like people are falling and dying and  
20 FERC is just 'let them die'; there is no regulation in what  
21 is happening in Pennsylvania; and now we are facing, and I  
22 experienced firsthand what is happening on Minisink. I see  
23 several of my brothers and sisters getting ill after that  
24 compressor station and two metering stations have been put  
25 in place, and there is no accountability.

26

CM1-114 Comment noted.

CM1-115 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		63
CM1-116	1	There is no word from the regulatory commission
	2	on these kind of things. And now you are allowing this
	3	company to bring the same infrastructure here to the
	4	Rockaways. And I will say first, take care of those people
	5	that are dying and you are letting them die, and then try to
	6	work something here. But after that happens, stop this
	7	project. Thank you very much.
	8	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	9	(Applause) Joe Nerone.
	10	MR. NERONE: Thank you for having me here. I do
	11	not wish to be recorded; can you please turn off the camera?
	12	Thank you.
	13	My name is Joe Nerone, spelled N e r o n e.
CM1-117	14	I just want to reiterate one point that's been
	15	made; there has not been enough public input. If you go
	16	through the EFO9 documents you'll see how Transco was going
	17	to be reaching out to the Rockaways, reaching out to the
	18	Rockaways, reaching out to the Rockaways and then, the
	19	Rockaway had an article; it was about the mystery stilt
	20	ship, when they were doing the core samples. And then in
	21	November of 2009, they had a meeting with the Chamber of
	22	Commerce.
	23	There has not been enough public outreach here,
CM1-118	24	and I will prove my point. Ms. McCarthy, have you seen the
	25	simulated photographs of the beach, what the beach is going
	26	

CM1-116 Comment noted.

CM1-117 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM1-118 Impacts on recreation and visual resources at Rockaway Beach due to construction and operation of the Rockaway Project are discussed in Sections 4.8.7 and 4.8.8 of the EIS, respectively. A lease for the Rockaway Project has not been signed. Also see the response to comment CM1-34.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	64	
CM1-118 (cont'd)	1	to look like in the summertime? Did you see these pictures?
	2	MS. MCCARTHY: No.
	3	MR. NERONE: She has not seen the pictures that
	4	were posted.
	5	I would like to show you. (Approaching Panel)
	6	This was posted on Friday. This was a simulated
	7	photograph of what it will look like at Reese Beach.
	8	This is a simulated photograph of what the beach
	9	will look like on Friday, and Ms. McCarthy has not seen it.
	10	I was on the phone today with Dennis Wydenbach (ph). He has
	11	not seen the lease.
CM1-119	12	In the testimony, they said it's only 60 years,
	13	that's the maximum. I thought it was 10 years that the NPS
	14	could issue a lease. But in Stephanie Toothman's testimony,
	15	she said 60 years.
	16	Transcontinental said that they will pay a
	17	hundred years in advance; that's where the \$9 million comes
	18	from. They can't do that.
CM1-120	19	I'd like to get to the Draft EIS. First thing
	20	I'd like to say, is the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project
	21	supplies no incremental increase in natural gas to the
	22	market; the Northeast Connector does this.
	23	18 CFR 1(c)(1). Gay already talked about this.
	24	Again, the application, the 7C application is incomplete.
	25	It did not include the Northeast Connector. And as Gay said
	26	

CM1-119 See the response to comment CM1-34.

CM1-120 See the responses to comments CM1-12 and CM1-41. See Sections 1.2.2, 4.8.2, and 4.8.7 of the EIS for additional details on the NPS review and potential approval of the easement on federal property.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		65
CM1-120 (cont'd)	1	earlier, the legislation was passed on the statements made
	2	by NPS and other elected officials such as Caz Holloway -- I
	3	have his testimony here. They said it was going to bring
	4	more gas.
	5	The 7C application does not have the Northeast
	6	Connector project in this. It could not do what it said it
	7	was going to do.
CM1-121	8	40 CFR 1502.9. Draft, final, and supplemental
	9	statements.
	10	Draft, final, supplemental statements. A) Draft
	11	environmental impact statements shall be prepared
	12	in accordance with the scope decided upon in the
	13	scoping process.
	14	The Northeast Connector project was not part of the scoping
	15	process.
CM1-122	16	The lead agency shall work with cooperating
	17	agencies and shall obtain comments, as required,
	18	in Part 1503 of this chapter. This draft
	19	statement must fulfill and satisfy to the fullest
	20	extent possible the requirements established for
	21	final statements in Section 102.2.c of the Act.
	22	If a draft statement is so inadequate as to
	23	preclude meaningful analysis, the agency shall
	24	prepare and circulate a revised draft of the
	25	appropriate portion.
	26	

CM1-121 As discussed in Section 1.3 of the EIS, we conducted scoping for the Northeast Connector Project from April 17 through May 27, 2013.

CM1-122 The draft EIS provided an adequate and meaningful assessment of potential impacts resulting from construction and operation of the Projects. Our assessment of impacts in the draft EIS was based on information provided by Transco under both dockets; the results of field investigations; scoping; literature review; alternatives analyses; and contacts with federal, state, and local agencies and other stakeholders. We note that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rated the draft EIS as "Lack of Objections – Adequate" meaning that the EPA did not identify "any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal" and that the "EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives." See comment FA3-3.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		66
CM1-122 (cont'd)	1	I am at this time requesting that the FERC revise the Draft
	2	EIS.
	3	(Applause)
	4	MR. NERONE: 40 CFR 1508.7. Cumulative Impact.
	5	Cumulative Impact is the impact on the
	6	environment which results from the incremental
	7	impact of the action when added to other past,
	8	present or reasonably foreseeable future actions
	9	regardless of what agency, federal or nonfederal,
	10	or person undertakes such other actions.
	11	Cumulative impacts can result from individually
	12	minor but collectively significant actions taking
	13	place over a period of time.
CM1-123	14	The Northeast Connector project was not in the 7C
	15	application.
	16	1508.8. Effects. B) Indirect effects, which are
	17	considered caused by the action and are later in
	18	time or further removed in distance, but are
	19	still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects
	20	may include growth-inducing effects and other
	21	effects related to the induced, related to the
	22	projects.
CM1-124	23	The Port Ambrose project cannot happen. It is dependent
	24	upon the Rockaway Lateral Delivery Project. Why else would
	25	you build two metering and regulating stations to process
	26	

CM1-123 Transco filed an application with the Commission for the Northeast Connector Project on April 9, 2013. Impacts associated with the Northeast Connector Project are addressed in the draft and final EIS.

CM1-124 See Section 3.3.8 of the EIS and the response to comment CM1-43.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		67
CM1-124 (cont'd)	1	650 decatherms of gas a day? This is overbuilding.
CM1-125	2	We have a pipeline that is out in the ocean, it's
	3	been out there since 1968 delivering natural gas to Nasau
	4	and Suffolk County. Suffolk County could be considered a
	5	frontier gas market. Why are we depriving Suffolk County of
	6	their pipeline?
CM1-126	7	I was on the phone with Doug O'Donnell, he has
	8	not read the Material Safety Data Sheet for the biocide and
	9	oxygen scavenger.
CM1-127	10	And my strategy for stopping this project -- not
	11	because I'm against gas but because I'm for parks. My
	12	strategy has been to not only work with the FERC but also
	13	work with all the participating agencies. So when I go to
	14	the FERC and I had issues with pipelines and gasses and
	15	other issues, chemicals, I also wrote to NPS and other
	16	agencies.
CM1-128	17	Doug O'Donnell has not read the Material Safety
	18	Data Sheets and Dennis Rydenbach (ph) has not seen the
	19	lease.
CM1-129	20	I want to thank FERC for working with
	21	Transcontinental. FERC did not delay this process.
	22	Williams Transcontinental Pipeline, LLC delayed this
	23	process. There's a letter, it's on file, it was issued by
CM1-130	24	the Army Corps of Engineers on October 9th, 2012, and the
	25	accession number is: 20121031-0027. This is from PF09-8.
	26	

CM1-125	Transco has stated that the Rockaway Project would increase reliability in National Grid's distribution system to customers receiving gas through Transco's existing Long Beach connection. The Rockaway Project would allow natural gas that is currently delivered to Long Beach and then shipped to National Grid customers in New York City to be delivered directly into the Brooklyn/Queens market area where supplies are needed. See Section 1.0 of the EIS for a summary of Transco's purpose and need of the Projects.
CM1-126	Comment noted.
CM1-127	Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.
CM1-128	Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-34.
CM1-129	Comment noted.
CM1-130	Comment noted.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	68
CM1-130 (cont'd)	<p>1 On October 9th, 2012, the Army Corps of Engineers</p> <p>2 requested that Transcontinental have at least four feet of</p> <p>3 cover over the pipeline. Williams Continental has been</p> <p>4 arguing with them for about a year now over that four foot</p> <p>5 cover. I'm glad that they finally resolved this issue, and</p> <p>6 they're going to put two feet of sand over the exit pit.</p>
CM1-131	<p>7 The last thing I read before Friday's new post of</p> <p>8 information was: The Army Corps wanted some information</p> <p>9 concerning how on earth Transcontinental Pipeline, LLC is</p> <p>10 going to comply with 40 CFR 230.404(b)(1). This is the law</p> <p>11 that will allow them to put dredged material in the water</p> <p>12 where we swim. The Corps wanted to see samples of what an</p> <p>13 open cut would look like. I've been talking about an open</p> <p>14 cut for a while now. It seems like that might be less of an</p> <p>15 impact than dumping the chemicals that are with the HDD</p> <p>16 fluids into the water, 3,000 feet from where we swim.</p>
CM1-132	<p>17 National Park Service wrote a letter. I mean,</p> <p>18 National Parks Conservation Association. NPCA is, however,</p> <p>19 very concerned about and objects to the placement of the</p> <p>20 metering and regulating facility in one of the historic</p> <p>21 hangars at Floyd Bennett Field, within Gateway National</p> <p>22 Recreation Area. We strongly believe that instead, the</p> <p>23 metering station should be placed on another site within</p> <p>24 Floyd Bennett Field, one that is already hard surface.</p> <p>25 Ryan C. Olson, DOI, Safety Assessment. In his</p> <p>26</p>

CM1-131 The potential effects of an open-cut crossing of the shoreline and a comparison of this crossing method to the proposed HDD method is provided in Section 3.7.3 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM1-85.

CM1-132 Comment noted. Alternative sites for the M&R facility are evaluated in Section 3.5 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

69

CM1-132  
(cont'd)

1 Denver service center quality assurance report. I'm talking  
2 about Document 4G. He raised some questions, and you know,  
3 this is something I've been talking on, and some other  
4 people for a long time now. The NPS did not negotiate a  
5 deal. If they negotiated a deal, we'd be having  
6 Transcontinental restore Hangars 4 and 5 as well as 1 and 2.

7 What he said, 7/16/2012 is: I understand the  
8 legislation and desire to locate this facility in this  
9 historic building, but will this be an adverse impact to the  
10 historic facility as noted in my comments? Would a better  
11 solution be to put the facility on the Northeast corner of  
12 Floyd Bennett Field or wherever?

13 Chris Jones also raised the same issue. He is  
14 also with the Denver Service Center, quality assurance.  
15 Briefly, through what's been filed most recently -- I'm  
16 talking about paperwork that was submitted on FERC on Friday  
17 the 18th.

CM1-133

18 I would tend to agree with Danielle Palmer of  
19 NOAA, Marine Fish Wildlife Service. Anytime you see noise  
20 levels that are coming very close to animals' threshold, you  
21 might want to question these noise levels. What she said,  
22 regarding formal consultation with FERC, she has not yet  
23 been contacted about formal consult. She said she is not  
24 sure how FERC will proceed with the consult, if they will  
25 use the EIS for consultation, et cetera. Danielle mentioned  
26

CM1-133

Information regarding our consultations with NOAA Fisheries has been updated in Sections 4.6.3 and 4.7.1 of the EIS. Our assessment of the potential effects of noise on species, which incorporates information provided to us by NOAA Fisheries staff, is evaluated in Sections 4.5.2.1, 4.5.2.2, 4.6.3.2, 4.7.1.1, 4.7.1.2, 4.7.1.3, and 4.7.1.4 of the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		70
CM1-133 (cont'd)	1	that it was unclear how they calculated some of their
	2	numbers for the threshold, and some of the thresholds for
	3	the species were not accurate.
	4	DEC/DOS/MPS. I'm not going to bore you with all
	5	this, I'm sorry. I will submit more statements in writing.
CM1-134	6	I just have to state that these mitigation
	7	measures is a joke, okay. I'm sorry, the people that are
	8	going to be impacted are at the beach and in Floyd Bennett
	9	Field; not Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, and I don't see any
	10	representatives here from any Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.
CM1-135	11	They do not talk about horseshoe crabs. I
	12	understand that the sled is now much thinner, and I'm happy
	13	that there's going to be less sedimentation, but they do not
	14	mention the horseshoe crabs.
CM1-136	15	The hydrostatic test fluid. We're talking -- do
	16	you know how many gallons of biocide-laden oxygen scavenging
	17	sea water is going to be released in July, Ms. McCarthy?
	18	Over 530,000 gallons of biocide-laden oxygen scavenging
	19	water, and if we're to trust the new schedule, they're going
	20	to do this around July 4th.
CM1-137	21	And also, the DOS did request if they could halt
	22	this process on the weekends and on July 4th. They said no,
	23	they cannot.
CM1-138	24	They gave some bogus numbers. This is just one
	25	thing I want to say right now: Transcontinental gave some
	26	

CM1-134 Comment noted.

CM1-135 Horseshoe crabs are included in our analyses of impacts on marine species in Sections 4.5 and 4.6 and in fisheries in Section 4.8.4.1 of the EIS.

CM1-136 Comment noted.

CM1-137 Comment noted. Generally speaking, there is no limit to the number of times drilling operations can be stopped and restarted, but doing so increases the risk for complications or failure of the drill (e.g., by collapse of or equipment becoming lodged in the bore hole), which would prolong the completion of a successful drill. This is especially true during reaming and pull-back which are 24-hour operations.

CM1-138 Comment noted. As reported in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS, the GNRA attracts more than 9 million visitors a year, which is consistent with annual use data provided by the NPS in its Visitor Use Statistics, available online through the Integration of Resource Management Applications Data System. Parking permit numbers are not used in the EIS.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

71

CM1-138  
(cont'd)

1 bogus numbers on how many people use the Jacob Riis Beach  
2 over the summer. They went by 2013, which was very cold.  
3 And they gave the parking permit numbers. This is not  
4 Texas. This is New York City. Most of the people take  
5 public transportation to the beach.

6 Like I said, I will be submitting more  
7 information on line. I don't want to repeat myself.

CM1-139

8 There's a lot of problems with this draft. And in regards  
9 to National Grid's letter -- I'm sorry Stavracas is not here  
10 today. Stavracas told us, and it is also in the seeker  
11 that was filed, the EA to allow National Grid's portion of  
12 this project, stated that that project, the BQI, would go  
13 through whether or not the Transcontinental metering and  
14 regulating station was built. They said they had to address  
15 pressure issues.

16 It kind of makes sense. I wrote to FERC and I  
17 told them it's the only part of the project that makes sense  
18 to me; gotta close the loop between Breezy Point and  
19 Brooklyn. Avenue U has a main line, and we have gas that  
20 comes in.

21 Kara, have you been following all this?

22 MS. HARRIS: Yes.

23 MR. NERONE: Okay. So there's just one or two  
24 things that I have to address right now in regards to the  
25 draft.

26

CM1-139 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

72

CM1-140 1 The noise study I am contesting; I do not believe  
2 this. First of all, the garden is not 450 feet from the  
3 hangars, it is less than 200 feet. Second of all, the noise  
4 study did not include the eight exhaust fans that are 2  
5 horsepower each. I was on the website of the company that  
6 makes them; they're very powerful fans. They are going to  
7 be on the roof of the hangars, and they're going to be  
8 exchanging a lot of air, very quickly.

CM1-141 9 And one more point that I just have to address  
10 right now is, I don't care if New York City is a non-  
11 attainment zone for the amount of chemicals that are going  
12 to be released from -- and I'm talking about the CO2 mostly,  
13 okay? I'm talking about BOCs. I'm not talking about the  
14 nitrous oxide and the sulfur oxide -- and I thought the  
15 National Park Service was part of a green initiative.  
16 Anyway.

17 I think that they should be required to comply  
18 with the PSD. I'm talking about the EPA's PSD to promote  
19 clean air. I'm sorry, they don't make glasses -- what's  
20 down on page 4-141. New York City is a non-attainment zone,  
21 but this is federal property; maybe we should treat it as  
22 such.

23 Like I said, I will be submitting some stuff in  
24 writing, but I Thank you for your time.

25 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

26

CM1-140 Section 4.11.2.3 of the EIS has been updated to include an analysis of the potential noise due to construction and operation of the M&R facility to the nearest garden plots within the Community Garden at Floyd Bennett Field.

CM1-141 As discussed in Section 4.11.2 of the EIS, the Projects would not be subject to the EPA's Prevention of Significant Deterioration Program because they are located in areas designated as nonattainment and would not affect any federal Class I areas. The M&R facility would not be subject to the EPA's Nonattainment New Source Review Program because the operational emissions from this facility would not exceed the trigger thresholds for nitrogen oxides or volatile organic compounds.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

73

1 (Applause)

2 MR. BROWN: Karen Orlando.

3 MS. ORLANDO: My name is Karen Orlando, Orlando  
4 like the city.

CM1-142 5 I just wanted to hold up, for a second, this  
6 large document that I received; and I think it's like a  
7 common theme that most people have discussed here, it's  
8 incomplete. This is a nearly 900 or maybe 1,000-page  
9 document. This company has been involved, they pre-filed in  
10 2009, it's now what, October 2013, and this document still  
11 requires more information. That's correct, right? Because  
12 the FERC asked for more information.

CM1-143 13 So even before we got this dropped on us, that  
14 this project is going to be built in the summer at Reese  
15 Beach and offshore, and back in 2009 one of the earliest  
16 interagency conversations was about a schedule that was good  
17 for species as well as the public use of the beach.

CM1-144 18 This came up by a number of people here, but I  
19 would like just to drive that home. The reason why we are  
20 delayed is because of the Applicant. We are delayed because  
21 the Applicant failed to comply with the regulations required  
22 by the FERC in their 7C application in January 2013. They  
23 were required to say whether another project needed to be  
24 filed or was already filed that would effectuate their  
25 project. That project is the Northeast Connector.

26

CM1-142 Information filed by Transco since publication of the draft EIS, including information filed in response to our recommendations in the draft EIS, has been incorporated into the final EIS. Also see the response to comment CM1-122.

CM1-143 See the response to comment CM1-14.

CM1-144 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-41.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

74

CM1-144  
(cont'd)

1                   And that is the reason why the title of this  
2                   Draft Environmental Impact Statement does not just say,  
3                   Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project; it now says, Rockaway  
4                   Delivery Lateral Project and Northeast Connector Project.  
5                   Now I already wrote the FERC about this, but Williams was  
6                   aware that they needed to put this project in in order to  
7                   deliver 100,000 decatherms of gas of incremental supply into  
8                   Brooklyn. That's necessary for the Rockaway Delivery  
9                   Lateral Project to do what it said it was going to do in all  
10                  of its resource reports. That's a major problem.

CM1-145

11                  The other thing that's not been included yet, and  
12                  we've been asking for this, is that you include impact from  
13                  Fort Ambrose project. This is an offshore, deep water port  
14                  with LNG ships; it's a 24-something mile pipeline project;  
15                  it does not appear that it's possible for it to be built  
16                  without the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project; it was put in  
17                  in an application in September of 2012, which is three  
18                  months prior to the 7C application that was submitted by  
19                  Transco. And at the time, Transco said: 'We've heard this  
20                  before.' This is going to reiterate the fact that this  
21                  company has lied multiple times to the people and to the  
22                  FERC.

23                  In their application, in their resource reports,  
24                  what Transco said was, "We are not aware of any LNG tie-in  
25                  project that's asking to tie in to the New York Lower Bay  
26

CM1-145           See the response to comment CM1-43.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

75

CM1-145  
(cont'd)

1 Lateral" when they filed this application in January 2013.  
2 That's a lie. It's the same lie that they made in 2009.  
3 And Atlantic Sea Island Company accused them of providing  
4 misinformation at that time period; and again, they're  
5 providing misinformation.

6 So I thought I'd just bring that up. I think I  
7 might lose track of really where all of the problems have  
8 occurred with this company, but there's a lot of terrific  
9 blame to go around.

CM1-146

10 On Friday, within the supplemental information  
11 that was submitted, there was a letter that was submitted by  
12 National Grid. So this project was always supposed to occur  
13 because the National Park Service originally, in 2009,  
14 wanted to keep the work that was going to go underneath  
15 Reese Beach and offshore, outside of the peak summer season.  
16 So this work was supposed to occur during the off period;  
17 and that's something that was arranged for a very, very,  
18 very, very long time.

19 So when the FERC said "Hey, we're not going to  
20 issue this Final Environmental Impact Statement," which is  
21 the fault of Williams for not including the Northeast  
22 Connector project and for not being willing to comply with  
23 the Army Corps' request or actually regulation that they  
24 bury the pipe four feet. This took nearly ten months for  
25 them to resolve this issue; they're haggling.

26

CM1-146

See the response to comment CM1-14. As discussed in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS, impacts on Rockaway Beach would be avoided by Transco's use of the HDD construction method. No ground-disturbing activities would occur on the beach. The entry point for the HDD would be located outside of Jacob Riis Park on TBTA property near the Marine Parkway Bridge Interchange, and the exit point would be located about 0.7 mile offshore.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

76

CM1-146  
(cont'd)

1 Now they want to change the whole construction  
2 time period. And what they did was, they produced a letter  
3 from National Grid, which is also based on something that's  
4 a lie. Because in National Grid's environmental assessment,  
5 they said that they could build the BQI regardless of  
6 whether Transco's project was built. They said the 26-inch  
7 pipe would continue or could continue to act as a secondary  
8 backfeed into the Rockaways.

9 This is the statement that they made for this  
10 environmental assessment, and this Environmental Assessment  
11 is what the negative declaration that the Mayor issued is  
12 based on. So now all of a sudden, they need to have this  
13 project on line in 2014. So we need to have construction in  
14 the summer and disturb the beach, which disturbs all the  
15 people that go to the beach as well as the vendors, all  
16 kinds of different impact. There's more impacted species,  
17 and this is because Williams failed to follow regulations  
18 and respond to what federal agencies asked of them.

19 So they don't get penalized; we get penalized.

CM1-147

20 They get rewarded with a time schedule that they were not  
21 supposed to be able to operate in. So I would ask --  
22 obviously I don't want you to build this project, because I  
23 think the first thing is, it doesn't actually deliver a lot  
24 of incremental supply. And this is the reason why it's  
25 leading to Port Ambrose.

26

CM1-147 See the responses to comments CM1-14 and CM1-43.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

77

CM1-148 | 1                   The second reason is, the second thing is, if you  
2                   do build this project you should keep this company to that  
3                   schedule. There's no reason to change this schedule to this  
4                   summer.

5                   I'm not going to get into all the nonsense with  
6                   the bill and the metering and regulating station, because I  
7                   think that I can address that probably at the meeting  
8                   tomorrow.\

9                   Thank you.

10                  MR. BROWN: Thank you.

11                  (Applause)

12                  MR. BROWN: Marge Scharb?

13                  MS. SCHAB: It's M a r g e r y S c h a b. And

14                  I am a Board Member of Damascus Citizens for Sustainability,  
CM1-149 | 15                  but I'm here personally. And the thing is, we can't  
16                  segment; this is a whole huge process that you heard, all  
17                  night long.

18                  What I wanted to tell you is, two things I've  
19                  seen personally. A number of decades ago my family was a  
20                  victim of a gas explosion. Now let me describe to you,  
21                  although this is a small gas explosion and I am sitting  
22                  here, I am standing here today: We're eating dinner, I have  
23                  two small children, my husband, myself, and there was a rain  
24                  storm, an electrical surge, and the tiny little gas line  
25                  feeding our oven exploded.

26

CM1-148           See the response to comment CM1-14.

CM1-149           See the response to comment CM1-56.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

78

1           Within seconds we lost half the kitchen -- it was  
2           good we had a fire extinguisher. If we were out of the  
3           house, the house would have exploded. If we were asleep, we  
4           all would have died. Now this is a tiny gas explosion.

5           The second thing I want to tell you is I was in  
6           Minisink, and I've seen the metering station, and I  
7           sometimes think the industry's in costume, looking good on  
8           the outside and trying to hide what's inside. And I took a  
9           picture, and on the top of the metering station, everything  
10          is newly painted but I look hear the ground. And I'm  
11          talking Minisink; I'm not talking sand and a salt coastal  
12          area. The pipes were completely corroded and I will submit  
13          the pictures of that.

CM1-150 | 14           So gas explosions happen. I was lucky. But  
15          everyone here should think again, and I urge you to reject  
16          their bid and the New York State Department of State issued  
CM1-151 | 17          a whole -- which I will submit to you -- study that we have  
18          a huge wind source off of Long Island. It seems a shame  
19          that we don't take advantage of that and instead subject  
20          ourselves, our communities -- and all kinds of communities;  
21          I'm not from here, but we're all affected to something we  
22          need not have to do.

CM1-152 | 23           So for the future, I ask you to look and to  
24          reject this, not to rubber-stamp and for a change represent  
25          us. We count. In fact, we count a lot more if you count our  
26

CM1-150      See the responses to comments CM1-23, CM1-31, and CM1-53.

CM1-151      Wind energy, including planned projects in the New York City area, is  
discussed in Section 3.2.2 of the EIS.

CM1-152      Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

79

CM1-152  
(cont'd)

1 numbers. So thank you.  
2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
3 (Applause)  
4 MR. BROWN: Kim Frazier.  
5 MS. FRACZEK: It's spelled F r a c z e k.  
6 The people in this room have covered a lot of  
7 things that I've wanted to talk about tonight. You can tell  
8 that there's a lot of intelligence in this room, and a lot  
9 of people who care about their health and who are very well  
10 versed, and researched on what's going on here.

CM1-153

11 I grew up in Pennsylvania, and this is where this  
12 gas is wanting to come from, through this pipeline. And I  
13 will tell you that my friends have to have neighborhood fund  
14 raisers to raise money to buy water for their families. So  
15 this whole thing is like not okay. Like, we are connected  
16 to everybody and everything, and you guys have the power  
17 right now to say no; and you have the ability to do the  
18 right thing.

CM1-154

19 And you know what's going on here; the only  
20 people that want this to happen are the people that are  
21 going to make money from this, are the people on Wall Street  
22 that are making money from this. Everybody else doesn't  
23 want it because they're afraid it's going to risk their  
24 health. And it's already risked my friend's health, and  
25 their children, and their future.  
26

CM1-153 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6.

CM1-154 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	80
CM1-155	<p>1 Please reject this project. You guys have the</p> <p>2 power to do the right thing, you really do. And right now</p> <p>3 people don't think very highly of your agency because we</p> <p>4 think you are a rubber stamp machine. We actually have a</p> <p>5 song written about you, that you're a rubber stamp machine</p> <p>6 to the tune of Yellow Submarine, like no joke. That's what</p> <p>7 we think of you. But you have the power to make it</p> <p>8 different. And you have the power to do your job and stand</p> <p>9 up for the people and make this democracy work, because the</p> <p>10 democracy is totally not working. It's working for them,</p> <p>11 and that's not a democracy. If you're going to represent</p> <p>12 the corporations and not represent the people, we have a</p> <p>13 really big problem here.</p>
CM1-156	<p>14 I don't want to get breast cancer, you know, like</p> <p>15 my friend has in Pennsylvania. I want to be able to have a</p> <p>16 great summer at the beach this year. I want to be able to</p> <p>17 take my friends there, you know. Do the right thing.</p> <p>18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.</p> <p>19 (Applause)</p> <p>20 MR. BROWN: Gladys Paulsen.</p> <p>21 MS. PAULSON: Hi, my name is Gladys Paulsen, P a</p>
CM1-157	<p>22 u l s o n, and I am from Suffolk County. I only heard about</p> <p>23 this pipeline two days ago when we were at the anti-fracking</p> <p>24 protest on Long Beach, and somebody handed me a paper, and I</p> <p>25 was pretty horrified about it, because you read about Massey</p> <p>26</p>

CM1-155 Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-168.

CM1-156 Comment noted. Land use impacts are discussed in Section 4.8 of the EIS.

CM1-157 Comment noted.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

81

CM1-157  
(cont'd)

1 Coal and you know those companies are not legit; and you  
2 read about BP and all the accidents that happen, and you  
3 know that their accidents are going to happen.

CM1-158

4 So what I've heard tonight about Transco -- and  
5 we know about National Grid. It's been very disturbing to  
6 me. But the real reason I came, and I know Suzy was talking  
7 about it before, was because I've been active in the anti-  
8 fracking movement for years now, and I want to leave a  
9 legacy for my great-great-great grandchildren. And Suzy  
10 mentioned how families are torn apart, and the communities  
11 are torn apart because of the hydraulic fracturing, the  
12 leases that are going on.

CM1-159

13 And my real fear is that if this pipeline gets  
14 approved -- and I ask you not to approve it, because it's  
15 just a dumb idea. You're putting a pipeline where there's  
16 like a huge community, lots of people, beautiful nature.  
17 Common sense just says 'this is ridiculous.'

CM1-160

18 But my big thing is that if this infrastructure  
19 is approved, it's just going to draw more and more gas from  
20 New York State, and that's where my heart is. And we are  
21 going to be like ruined as we export this gas, and don't let  
22 anybody think that we will not eventually be exporting this  
23 gas, because they need gas over in Europe and they need gas  
24 in China. And we will be the export king of the world.

25 So I really ask you not to approve this, because  
26

CM1-158 Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-6.

CM1-159 Comment noted.

CM1-160 Comment noted. The Projects do not involve the export of natural gas.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

82

CM1-160  
(cont'd)

1 it's just going to go down a road that's going to be  
2 terrible. Thank you.  
3 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
4 (Applause)  
5 MR. BROWN: Clare Donohue.  
6 MS. DONOHUE: Hi, how are you, Ms. Harris, Ms.  
7 McCarthy. I'm sorry, I don't remember your name.  
8 I'm Clare Donohue, I'm representing Sane Energy  
9 Project. I grew up near here, in Rosedale, Queens, which is  
10 over near Kennedy Airport; and when you guys flew in you  
11 probably got the whole view of how close this entire area is  
12 to Kennedy Airport. My brother was a cop in this  
13 neighborhood. I came to the Beach 110th Street every day as  
14 a kid, so I'm very familiar with this area.

CM1-161

15 I really, I wish that FERC was, as the gentleman  
16 in the red shirt said, our defense. I wish that FERC  
17 weren't a rubber-stamping machine, and I'll submit written  
18 comments particular to the Draft EIS later, but I really  
19 feel like this is an opportunity for us to have a  
20 conversation about FERC and about what we wish FERC was  
21 doing.

22 I understand the political atmosphere that we're  
23 in right now, I understand that Congress has actually  
24 written a bill that would require you to approve projects  
25 faster than you do right now. We also have a Congress that  
26

CM1-161 Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-168.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

83

CM1-161  
(cont'd)

1 thinks it's okay to shut down the country. So we're in a  
2 very unbalanced sort of political situation right now. But  
3 FERC, as it is now, really needs reform, as an agency. I  
4 mean, at the Constitution Pipeline Scoping hearing, the FERC  
5 representatives were asked, "Has there ever been, in the  
6 last ten years, a pipeline project that was not approved?"  
7 And the FERC representative said "Not to my knowledge."

8 So basically, you know, our perception of FERC is  
9 that no matter what we do, no matter how many people show up  
10 at this hearing or tomorrow night's hearing, we went through  
11 the Spectra pipeline process. There were 5,000 comments  
12 filed against it and 22 in favor. It was approved. There  
13 were 500 people at that hearing. It was approved.

14 So my perception of FERC is that no matter what  
15 we say and no matter how many detailed comments we make  
16 about the EIS, here and there some little things might  
17 change, but this is what you wrote in the final EIS for the

CM1-162

18 Spectra pipeline. We wrote about, in the way that people  
19 are talking about Williams Transco's safety record. Which  
20 Williams has, in 2012, 44 out of 45 months under federal  
21 corrective order.

22 Since January 2013 there have been at least five  
23 more incidents from Williams Transco. They have a terrible  
24 track record; so did Spectra Energy. In the final EIS, FERC  
25 wrote that, despite us bringing up the fact that Spectra had

26

CM1-162 See the response to comment CM1-31.



## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		84
CM1-162 (cont'd)	1	had a terrible track record, they were going to prove it
	2	anyway, because basically that was in the past. That's
	3	essentially that's what the EIS said.
	4	So I really hope that you don't sign off on
	5	Williams Transco and just blow off all of their terrible
	6	safety records. That we will point out to you in our
	7	written comments.
CM1-163	8	FERC dismissed the radon problem with shale gas.
	9	You know, you're not UPS, you're not delivering packages,
	10	you're delivering a utility that will be breathed by people
	11	in their kitchen. This does need to be part of the FERC
	12	issues; and we are suing you guys because you didn't look at
	13	that in the Spectra pipeline. You blew that off and said
	14	that wasn't your job. That's not right. That needs to be
	15	what FERC looks into.
CM1-164	16	It's interesting to me that FERC is the one
	17	agency I'm aware of that worked through the federal
	18	shutdown. FERC continued to issue filings, continued to
	19	approve things. I'm assuming that that's because FERC is
	20	actually funded by industry. We know that all of the EISes
	21	--
	22	(Applause)
	23	-- all are paid for by the builder of the pipeline, so I'm
	24	assuming that Williams Transco paid for this EIS. Is that
	25	correct?
	26	

CM1-163 See the response to comment CM1-21.

CM1-164 Comment noted. The FERC is an independent agency that regulates the interstate transmission of natural gas, oil, and electricity. The Commission is funded through costs recovered by the fees and annual charges from the industries it regulates. Permitting a federal or state agency to levy fees and fines on persons subject to its jurisdiction, or to charge for regulatory actions, is neither a novel nor nefarious means of sustaining the work of an agency. At least two dozen federal agencies derive some or all of their funding, directly or indirectly, from such collections.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		85
CM1-164 (cont'd)	1 MS. MCCARTHY: I work for the National Park 2 Service. I can't answer your question, sorry. 3 MS. DONOHUE: Ms. Harris, can you answer that 4 question? 5 MS. HARRIS: Well, FERC has funding through 6 different means. They do have fees that come into play. 7 MS. DONOHUE: Right. So Spectra paid for its 8 EIS. And I would assume Williams Transco is paying for this 9 EIS. So we do obviously question the validity of an EIS 10 paid for by the industry itself. That's a problem. 11 AUDIENCE: (off mic, inaudible) 12 MS. DONOHUE: Karen, you can just be quiet for a 13 moment. CM1-165 14 So the other issue that happened also with 15 Spectra was this illegal segmentation, and the parts of the 16 pipeline that are given to the local utility, being removed 17 from the environmental review. So here it's National Grid, 18 in Manhattan it was Con Ed. 19 National Grid has been able to start building 20 this pipeline. You guys have -- you're only at the Draft 21 EIS section and they're already building a pipeline. 22 They've already done HDD. How can this be right? You know, 23 this is not how our country should work. So this discredits 24 you as an agency. CM1-166 25 The fact that people in this neighborhood don't 26	

CM1-165 See the response to comment CM1-56.

CM1-166 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

	86	
CM1-166 (cont'd)	1	know about the project is a big problem. Because it's built
	2	in a national park, there isn't the notification of local
	3	homeowners that happened, for instance, with the
	4	Constitution Pipeline in Upstate New York. With the
	5	Constitution Pipeline, at least people were made aware of
	6	the project early on, and were able to react to it and
	7	resist it. This pipeline is not going, for the most part,
	8	through private property, so there was no notification of
	9	local homeowners.
	10	I am asking you, I'm requesting you as part of my
	11	formal comments to send notification to everyone on the
	12	Rockaway Peninsula in writing by mail, and everyone who is
	13	within five miles of the Brooklyn entry of this pipeline,
	14	that this project is happening. That's only fair.
	15	(Applause)
CM1-167	16	And the final thing that I remember from the
	17	Spectra Final EIS, after we submitted all of the comments,
	18	like we're submitting comments now, about the safety, about
	19	the radon, about the environmental impacts, about the danger
	20	to people, about the option to use renewable energy instead.
	21	In the Alternative section of your Final EIS you
	22	went point-by-point disputing everything we suggested with
	23	the final -- the final word that really got me was, 'We
	24	couldn't do that even if they were something we wanted to
	25	do, because to not build this pipeline would not be in the
	26	

CM1-167

As described in Section 3.0 of the EIS, not all conceivable alternatives are technically and economically practicable and feasible. Some alternatives may be impracticable because they are unavailable and/or are incapable of being implemented after taking into consideration costs, existing technologies, constraints of existing system capacities, and logistics in light of the overall objectives of the proposed project. We consider the ability of an alternative to meet the objectives of the proposed project an important criterion for assessing whether or not the alternative would be preferable to the proposed project.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		87
CM1-167 (cont'd)	1	interest of the applicant. Would not meet the needs of the
	2	applicant,' the applicant being the builder of the pipeline.
CM1-168	3	This is the final problem with FERC. Your
	4	mandate is not to look out for us; you don't have our back.
	5	Your mandate is to get these projects built as quickly as
	6	possible.
	7	When it comes to building wind farms, we want you
	8	to do that. When it comes to things that blow up and
	9	irradiate people, we really do need you not just to put the
	10	brakes on, but to actually ask the question which is never
	11	asked in the FERC EIS: Should this be built or not?
	12	If you're approving every project that comes down
	13	your way, really you have to question what kind of agency is
	14	that? You know, I mean, I really want you as human beings,
	15	as people who one day might live next to one of these
	16	projects, to take this into account and to ask yourselves:
	17	Is this project necessary?
CM1-169	18	In the time frame that it's going to take to
	19	build out all this gas infrastructure, that's going to be
	20	connected to export, that's going to be connected, all of
	21	these segmented projects are all part of a national network
	22	of pipelines. In the time that that's going to be built
	23	out, the supposed transition from fossil fuel through
	24	natural gas to renewables, in that same time frame we could
	25	be building out the renewables already. The studies have
	26	

**CM1-168** As described in Section 1.2.1 of the EIS, the FERC is responsible for evaluating applications it receives from project sponsors seeking authorization to construct and operate interstate natural gas facilities. The FERC's review includes an assessment of both environmental and non-environmental aspects of the application. The Commission will determine whether the Projects are in the public interest and are environmentally acceptable actions. This decision will be based on the consideration of many factors, including the final EIS and associated recommendations, market analysis, rates, and engineering analyses. If the Commission determines that the Projects are not in the public interest or represent unacceptable environmental actions, the Projects could be postponed or denied. Many of the projects that have been proposed to the FERC have not been built. The reasons are varied but include both market and regulatory causes, which are sometimes tied to decisions by the Commission.

**CM1-169** See the responses to comments CM1-24, CM1-67, and CM1-74.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

		88
CM1-169 (cont'd)	1 shown that we can be completely on renewables by 2050. How 2 long and how many billions of dollars are we going to put 3 into this fossil fuel infrastructure, and do we think you're 4 just going to abandon it after it's built?	
CM1-170	5 There are so many abandoned oil wells and gas 6 wells in Upstate New York that they can't even find them 7 now. So when people say like, this is a new pipeline, it's 8 steel, it's going to be safe -- every pipeline gets old. 9 Every pipeline gets old. Every pipeline is a risk.	
CM1-171	10 So I really am going to ask you not just to not 11 approve this project but to notify everyone who is on the 12 Rockaway Peninsula, everyone within five miles, so that they 13 can just simply be aware of the danger that is approaching 14 them. 15 Thank you so much. 16 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. 17 (Applause) 18 MR. BROWN: Peter Fend. 19 I may be mispronouncing the last name; it looks 20 like Fenz. Peter Fenz? 21 MS. HARRIS: Does anyone wish to speak that 22 hasn't had a -- 23 (Simultaneous discussion) 24 MR. FEND: Sorry. I was just discussing the park 25 briefly. I'm Peter Fend, F e n d is my last name. 26	

CM1-170 Comment noted. Pipeline safety is discussed in Section 4.12 of the EIS.

CM1-171 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

89

CM1-172

1 I only want to bring one maybe outside fact. New  
2 York State in 1982 organized a conference of U.S. and  
3 Chinese scientists to discuss the production of methane gas  
4 from seaweed. They recommended at that time a \$10 million  
5 investment, and a national industry both in U.S. and China  
6 to have myelmethane produced, whereby methane would be  
7 produced by means completely other than fracking; it would  
8 come from biological sources. And there was quite a bit of  
9 research done at the State University at Stony Brook, State  
10 University of New York at Stony Brook to have biomethane  
11 produced systematically in New York harbor and this whole  
12 region. Long Island, for example; Long Island Sound as  
13 well.

14 Now the point being that you don't have to get  
15 gas, methane gas, which has industrial potential, can also  
16 be a jet fuel. You don't have to get it from fossil  
17 sources. You can get it from the constant inflow of  
18 nutrients and sediments into this area.

19 A very large amount of money is spent every year  
20 on dredging to remove the sediments that accumulate in this  
21 area, in New York Harbor; and that can be absorbed instead  
22 by seaweed and then harvested to produce methane gas in a  
23 renewable way,

24 Now that's all completely outside the box of this  
25 particular discussion, but it is -- to say that we can have  
26

CM1-172

Alternative energy sources to the Projects are assessed in Section 3.2 of the EIS. We are not aware of any alternative projects involving the use of dredged sediments and seaweed to generate methane in the New York City area that would be a practicable alternative to the Projects.

## CM1 – Public Comment Meeting in Rockaway Beach, New York (cont'd)

90

CM1-172  
(cont'd)

1 fuel, we can also have it ecologically, and this was funded  
2 by the State University of New York through the Sea Grant  
3 Institute in 1982 with a report in 1983; and the scenario  
4 was that this would be a U.S.-Chinese cooperation, and it  
5 was immediately crushed by the oil companies. But it could  
6 be done and it could let us have fuel ecologically.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

9 Is there anyone else who didn't get an  
10 opportunity to speak, like to speak?

11 Well, if no one else would like to speak, I will  
12 quickly mention the FERC website. Within our website there  
13 is a link called eLibrary. If you type in the docket number  
14 CP13-36 or CP13-132, you can use eLibrary to gain access to  
15 everything on the record concerning each project as well as  
16 all the filings and information submitted by Transco. A  
17 link called eSubscription is also available for you to sign  
18 up using an e-mail address to receive e-mails each time a  
19 document is filed in either the CP13-36 or CP13-132 dockets.

20 On behalf of the Federal Energy Regulatory  
21 Commission, I want to thank you for coming tonight. This  
22 meeting is adjourned.

23 (Whereupon, at 9:29 p.m., the public comment  
24 meeting adjourned.)

25

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York

1	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	1
2	FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION	
3		
4	----- x	
5	Transcontinental Gas : Docket No. CP13-36-000	
6	Pipe Line Company, LLC. : Docket No. CP13-132-000	
7	----- x	
8		
9	ROCKAWAY DELIVERY LATERAL PROJECT	
10	and NORTHEAST CONNECTOR PROJECT	
11	Aviator Sports & Events Center	
12	3159 Flatbush Avenue	
13	Brooklyn, New York 11234	
14	Wednesday, October 23, 2013	
15		
16	The public comment meeting, pursuant to notice, convened	
17	at 7:00 p.m. before a Staff Panel:	
18	KARA J. HARRIS, Environmental Project Manager,	
19	Office of Energy Projects, FERC	
20	DAVE AVRIN, Chief of Resources,	
21	Gateway National Recreation Area	
22	LARRY BROWN, Project Manager,	
23	Natural Resource Group (NRG)	
24		
25		
26		



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

2

1	LIST OF PUBLIC SPEAKERS	
2	Sharon Goldstein	35
3	Fat Almonrode	14
4	Ida Sanoff, Executive Director,	
5	Natural Resources Protective Association	17
6	Reverend Ieva Zadina	21
7	Eleanor Preiss	23
8	Ed Berkowitz	23
9	Gay Snyder	25
10	Barbara Pearson	29
11	Karen Orlando	32
12	Joe Nerone	40
13	Craig Stevens	43
14	Lois Pinetree	54
15	Dave Do you	57
16	Eddie Kantrowitz	61
17	Matt Gove, Surfrider Foundation	65
18	Susan Van Dolsen	67
19	Rey Pinder	70
20	Joseph Bonserio	73
21	Maureen Healy	73
22	Sandra Lee	77
23		
24		
25		
26		

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

3

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 MS. HARRIS: Good evening, everyone. On behalf  
3 of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, also known as  
4 the F.E.R.C. or "FERC" I would like to welcome you here  
5 tonight. This is a public comment meeting on the Draft  
6 Environmental Impact Statement or EIS for the Rockaway  
7 Delivery Lateral Project and the Northeast Connector  
8 Project. Both projects are proposed by Transcontinental Gas  
9 Pipeline Company, LLC, also known as Transco.

10 My name is Kara Harris, and I am Environmental  
11 Project Manager with FERC's Office of Energy Projects.

12 Sitting to my left is Dave Avrin, who is Chief of  
13 Resources at Gateway National Recreation Area.

14 Larry Brown, to my right, is a Project Manager  
15 with Natural Resource Group, also known as NRG. NRG is an  
16 environmental consulting firm assisting us in producing the  
17 EIS for the projects.

18 The FERC is an independent federal agency -- if  
19 everyone will please sit down so we can get started with the  
20 meeting.

21 (Pause)

22 FERC is an independent federal agency located in  
23 Washington, D.C. that regulates interstate transmission of  
24 electricity, natural gas, and oil. We are the lead federal  
25 agency responsible for the National Environmental Policy  
26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

4

1 Act, also known as the NEPA review of proposed projects, and  
2 the lead agency for the preparation of the EIS.

3 The National Park Service, U.S. Environmental  
4 Protection Agency, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the  
5 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the City  
6 of New York agreed to be cooperating agencies with FERC and  
7 assisted in the preparation of the Draft EIS.

8 The proposed projects consist of 3.2 miles of new  
9 pipeline, one new metering and regulating station,  
10 modification of three existing compressor stations, and  
11 various onshore and offshore facilities, including taps,  
12 valves, manifolds, launchers and receivers.

13 It is important for everyone to understand that  
14 the proposed projects were not conceived by and are not  
15 promoted by the FERC, the Park Service, the EPA, the Corps  
16 of Engineers, NOAA or the City of New York. The FERC staff  
17 reviews applications for the authority to build and operate  
18 interstate natural gas pipelines, and Transco submitted  
19 applications to the FERC in January and April of this year.

20 Our obligation is to review the applications and  
21 prepare an analysis of the environmental impacts. If you  
22 wish to speak tonight, please be sure to sign the Speakers  
23 List. If you do not wish to speak, you can fill out one of  
24 the comment forms, or follow the instructions on the form to  
25 send written comments to us at a later date. The Speakers  
26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

5

1 List and handouts are both at the sign-in table where you  
2 came in.

3  
4 Tonight's meeting is not a public hearing; we're  
5 here to debate the proposal or to make any determinations on  
6 its fate. The purpose of tonight's meetings is to provide  
7 each of you with the opportunity to give us your comments on  
8 the Draft EIS. We are here tonight to learn from you. It  
9 will help us the most if your comments are as specific as  
10 possible regarding the projects and the Draft EIS.

11 During our review of the projects, we assemble  
12 information from a variety of sources, including Transco,  
13 you the public, other state, local and federal agencies, and  
14 our own independent analysis and field work. Our analysis,  
15 findings and recommendations to ensure environmental impacts  
16 are minimized are summarized in the Draft EIS that was  
17 distributed to the public for comment.

18 FERC issued a Notice of Availability for the  
19 Draft EIS on October 4, and initiated the comment period.  
20 We mailed over 800 copies of the Draft EIS to everyone on  
21 our mailing list. However, due to a lapse in funding for  
22 the USEPA, the official 45-day public comment period for the  
23 Draft EIS does not begin until October 25th, 2013. The end  
24 of the formal comment period has been extended from November  
25 25th to December 9th.

26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

6

1           All written comments received during the comment  
2     period and provided verbally on the record tonight will be  
3     addressed in the Final EIS. All comments that we receive,  
4     whether they are orally or written, are handled in exactly  
5     the same fashion. There's no difference, either one form or  
6     the other during our review.

7           While our comment period is scheduled to end on  
8     December 9th, we will continue to take and analyze comments  
9     throughout our process. So while we have a deadline, it  
10    does not mean that we will ignore comments that are received  
11    after December 9th. However, we do ask that you provide  
12    comments as soon as possible in order to give us time to  
13    analyze and research the issues, and provide an adequate  
14    response.

15          I would like to add that the FERC strongly  
16    encourages electronic filing of any comments. The  
17    instructions for this are located on our website, at  
18    [www.FERC.gov](http://www.FERC.gov) under the eFiling link. The comment forms at  
19    the sign-in table also tell you how to file comments  
20    electronically. If you received a copy of the Draft EIS,  
21    you will automatically receive a copy of the Final EIS. If  
22    you did not get a copy of the draft and would like a copy of  
23    the final, please sign the mailing list at the table, and  
24    provide your name and address, and we will make sure you get  
25    a copy of the Final EIS.

26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

7

1           To clarify, the EIS is not a decision document.  
2       It is being prepared to advise the Commission and to  
3       disclose to the public the environmental impact of  
4       constructing and operating the proposed projects. When it  
5       is completed, the Commission will consider the environmental  
6       information from the EIS along with the non-environmental  
7       issues including engineering, markets, and rates in making  
8       its decision to approve or deny a certificate, which would  
9       be the FERC's authorization for these projects.

10           If the Commission votes to approve the projects  
11       and a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity is  
12       issued, Transco will be required to meet certain conditions,  
13       as outlined in the certificate, to minimize adverse  
14       environmental impacts. FERC Environmental Staff will  
15       monitor the projects through construction and restoration by  
16       performing onsite inspections to ensure environmental  
17       compliance with the conditions of the FERC certificate.

18           We will now move in to the part of the meeting  
19       where we will hear comments from the audience members. As I  
20       mentioned before, if you would rather not speak, you may  
21       hand in written comments tonight or send them to the  
22       Secretary of the Commission. Whether you verbally provide  
23       your comments or mail them in, they will be equally  
24       considered by FERC.

25           This meeting is being recorded by a transcription  
26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

8

1 service, so all your comments will be transcribed and placed  
2 into the public record.

3 For the benefit of all in attendance and for  
4 accuracy of the transcript, when we call your name please  
5 step up to the podium and clearly state your name and  
6 affiliation, if any. You might spell your name to the court  
7 reporter to ensure accuracy if misspelling is likely. Also,  
8 please speak directly into the microphone so that you can be  
9 clearly heard by the reporter, the panel, and the audience.

10 Lastly, before we start, as a courtesy to our  
11 speakers and the rest of the audience, please turn off or  
12 silence your cell phones. Thank you.

13 I will now call the first speaker.

14 Craig Stevens.

15 (Pause)

16 Craig Stevens? (No response.)

17 Sharon Goldstein.

18 MS. GOLDSTEIN: Hello, my name is Sharon  
19 Goldstein. I grew up in Brooklyn, spent a third of my life  
20 living in Flatbush and enjoying the Jamaica Bay, Rits Park,  
21 and that whole area. I'm reading this statement for Ann  
22 Lazarus, an avid birder, who was not able to be here today

CM2-1 | 23 The New York Bay Region is one of  
24 the most important shorebird  
25 stopovers. It will be severely  
26

CM2-1 Impacts on birds are discussed in Sections 4.5.2.3, 4.5.2.4, 4.5.3, 4.7.1.5, and 4.7.5 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	9	
CM2-1 (cont'd)	1	impacted by the Rockaway pipeline,
	2	both by the construction and the
	3	operating of the pipeline. The
CM2-2	4	pollution from this project and
	5	the loss of food sources will have
	6	a devastating effect. Horseshoe
	7	crab eggs, which will be affected,
	8	are a vital source of food for
	9	these declining shore birds,
	10	especially the endangered red
	11	knot.
	12	The pollution from the
	13	construction and operation of the
	14	pipeline will impact the red knot
	15	population and reduce to dangerous
	16	low level the eggs which are
	17	sustaining a migrating shore bird
	18	population.
CM2-3	19	Shore birds eat invertebrates.
	20	These invertebrates are part of
	21	the benthic population. This
	22	refers to organisms living on or
	23	in the sea bottom of Jamaica Bay.
	24	They will also be reduced, further
	25	adding to the decline of these
	26	

### CM2-2

Impacts on migratory bird species, including red knot, are discussed in Section 4.5.2.4 of the EIS. Neither the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) nor the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has identified red knot as a federally or state-listed threatened or endangered species known to occur in the vicinity of the Rockaway Project area. Impacts on marine species, some of which are used as a food source by birds, are discussed in Sections 4.5 and 4.6. Also see the responses to comments CM2-3, CM2-5, and CM2-6.

### CM2-3

No impacts on birds are expected due to the loss of benthic species as a food source. Construction of the offshore pipeline would result in impacts on benthic species due to crushing, disruption, removal, turnover, and sedimentation, but the effects would be temporary and localized (see Sections 4.5.2 and 4.6.3 of the EIS). Operation of the Rockaway Project would have minimal impacts on benthic species because the pipeline would be buried below the seabed. Maintenance activities, which would result in limited displacement of sediments at the subsea hot-tap site, would occur once every 7 years. Impacts on federally and state-listed threatened and endangered species are discussed in Section 4.7. No portion of the Rockaway Project would be built within Jamaica Bay. Also see the responses to comments CM1-146, CM2-1, CM2-5, and CM2-6.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		10
CM2-3 (cont'd)	1	species, many of which are
	2	endangered or threatened.
CM2-4	3	Piping clovers are an endangered
	4	species. They nest near the shore
	5	of beaches in Breezy Point, Fort
	6	Tilden, and some in Rockaway.
	7	They feed upon the invertebrates
	8	along the beach shoreline. The
	9	young are precocious and feed
	10	themselves; the population
	11	generated from the Rockaway pipe
	12	will reduce their food source and
	13	increase the pollution to which
	14	they will be exposed.
CM2-5	15	This dire situation extends to
	16	other coastal birds as well. The
	17	American oystercatcher also nests
	18	in this area. It also eats
	19	invertebrates and even other small
	20	birds. I have seen an
	21	oystercatcher feed a young piping
	22	clover to its own young, possibly
	23	bio-magnifying the toxins that the
	24	four young piper clover absorbed
	25	in the feeding process.
	26	

CM2-4

Impacts on piping plovers are discussed in Section 4.7.1.5 of the EIS. Also see the responses to comments CM2-1, CM2-3, CM2-5, and CM2-6.

CM2-5

No significant impacts on birds or fish are expected as a result of biomagnification of pollutants or toxins in the food chain (see Section 4.6.3 of the EIS). Construction of the pipeline would result in turbidity and sedimentation in the ocean, but the effects on marine species would be temporary, short term, and localized. Additionally, based on an analysis of sediment samples from along the pipeline route, the Rockaway Project is not expected to result in the resuspension of contaminated sediments into the water column. An oxygen scavenger and biocide would be added to seawater withdrawn from the ocean for hydrostatic testing, but the concentration of these compounds at the time of discharge is not expected to cause adverse effects on marine organisms. Also see the response to comment CM2-6.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

11

CM2-5  
(cont'd)

1

This bio-magnification problem

2

will negatively impact many

3

species of birds and fish from the

4

pollution generated from the

5

Rockaway pipeline project.

CM2-6

6

Part of the Rockaway pipeline

7

construction involves the use of

8

biocide to be injected directly

9

into the ocean. Many sea birds,

10

dwelling species will die, but

11

some will be contaminated, and the

12

contamination will biomagnify up

13

the food chain.

14

We know that mollusks,

15

crustaceans, fish species such as

16

white blafter (ph), bay anchovies,

17

umidge (ph), and Atlantic menhaden

18

will be negatively impacted.

19

Lower on the food chain are the

20

micro algae, which are at the

21

bottom of the process. As we

22

approach the top of the food chain

23

in the ocean, we see dolphins

24

eating the contaminated fish;

25

loggerhead and Ridley turtles

26

CM2-6

We concluded that the potential for the oxygen scavenger and biocide to be consumed by marine species and biomagnified through the food chain is low based on the analyses provided in Sections 4.3.2.3, 4.5.2.1, and 4.6.3.2 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM2-5.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		12
CM2-6 (cont'd)	1	eating contaminated seafood are
	2	also affected.
CM2-7	3	Many species of birds nest along
	4	the coastal areas. Least Terns,
	5	Common Terns, Foster's Tern,
	6	Black Skimmers, and the endangered
	7	Roseate Tern forage in the Jamaica
	8	Bay, Rockaway area. They forage
	9	for fish which they also bring to
	10	their young. If the fish are
	11	getting contaminated, their
	12	populations are threatened. The
	13	Least Tern is declining in our
	14	area already.
CM2-8	15	Other shorebirds nesting in the
	16	grasslands along the beaches and
	17	mud flats include: Eastern
	18	Willetts and Kildeer. Their
	19	habits and food supply is also
	20	threatened by the Rockaway
	21	pipeline, and its water and air
	22	pollution. Particularly from the
	23	metering and regulating station
	24	plant.
CM2-9	25	Parrots and Egrets forage along
	26	

CM2-7 See the responses to comments CM1-146, CM2-1, CM2-3, CM2-5, and CM2-6.

CM2-8 See the responses to comments CM2-1, CM2-3, CM2-5, and CM2-6. As discussed in Section 4.11.1 of the EIS, there would be no significant impacts on air quality as a result of the Rockaway Project.

CM2-9 See the responses to comments CM2-1, CM2-3, CM2-5, and CM2-6.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

13

CM2-9  
(cont'd)

1 the coastal areas, and nesting  
2 areas as well. They face the same  
3 problem of lost food sources and  
4 contamination. Their populations  
5 are unstable at this point.  
6 In the winter, fall and spring  
7 many duck species inhabit Jamaica  
8 Bay, Rockaways, Fort Tilden, Riis  
9 Park, et cetera. They will be  
10 confronted with the same problem.  
11 Hawk feeding contaminated prey  
12 will be threatened as well. Some  
13 of the birds of prey, including  
14 Northern Harrier, Red-tailed hawk,  
15 Sharp shinned hawk, Merlin and  
16 American Kestrel, Peregrine  
17 Falcons, et cetera.

CM2-10

18 Ecology is a relationship among  
19 organisms, and it is a complex  
20 issue. The Rockaway pipeline will  
21 have severe and negative effects  
22 on the ecology. The fisheries  
23 will be severely impacted. This  
24 project should not be allowed.

25 Thank you.

26

CM2-10

Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted. See Section 4.8.4.1 and 4.9.6 of the EIS for discussions of impacts on fisheries.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

14

1 (Applause)

2 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

3 Pat Almonrode.

4 Would you spell your last name, please.

5 MR. ALMONRODE: Sure. I'm Pat Almonrode, A l m o  
6 n r o d e.

7 I'm currently a resident of Manhattan, but I'm a  
8 former resident of Flatbush and Riis Park. And I'm here as  
9 a private citizen. I have several concerns I'd like to  
10 mention tonight.

CM2-11 11 Investment in fossil fuels, such as this project,  
12 an investment in fossil fuel infrastructure is a  
13 disincentive to investment in renewables. Wind, water, and  
14 solar power can be scaled up in cost effective ways to meet  
15 our energy demands, freeing us from dependence on fossil  
16 fuels and nuclear power. That alone is a major reason that  
17 this project should not be allowed to go through.

CM2-12 18 The project will also encourage fracking, the  
19 more pipelines, the more financial incentive to use gas, and  
20 to frack to get it; both in other states such as  
21 Pennsylvania and eventually, here in New York.

CM2-13 22 The project will exacerbate the climate change,  
23 although natural gas burns cleaner than coal or oil, it is  
24 dirty to extract and transport. Pound for pound, methane --  
25 natural gas -- contributes more to global warming than CO2.  
26

CM2-11 Comment noted. Sources of renewable energy, including planned projects, are discussed in Section 3.2.2 of the EIS.

CM2-12 See the response to comment CM1-6.

CM2-13 Methane emissions from construction and operation of the Projects, expressed in units of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) equivalent, are discussed in Section 4.11.1 of the EIS. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are discussed in Section 4.11.1.4 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	15	
CM2-14	1 Pipeline safety is also a major concern. Since	
	2 1986, pipeline accidents have killed more than 500 people,	
	3 injured over 4,000, and cost nearly \$7 billion in property	
	4 damages in the U.S. alone.	
CM2-15	5 As the previous speaker mentioned, there are	
	6 numerous impacts on endangered and protected species. The	
	7 draft EIS acknowledges that this project is likely to	
	8 adversely affect Atlantic Right Whale and Atlantic sturgeon,	
	9 and that it may also have impacts for the leatherback sea	
	10 turtle, Kemp's Ridley sea turtle, green sea turtle,	
	11 loggerhead sea turtle, Roseate tern, Piping Plover, and	
	12 seabird amaranth. These impacts may result from a variety	
	13 of factors, including pile driving noise, dredging, ocean	
	14 debris and collision of vessels. In addition, there are	
CM2-16	15 numerous impacts on other marine wildlife. Noise in the	
	16 immediate area of pile driving would exceed the injury	
	17 threshold for fish; and in fact, Transco has asked NOAA for	
	18 authorization for intermittent level B harassment of six	
	19 marine mammal species. Dredging and jetting during	
	20 construction would directly disturb approximately 38 acres	
	21 of seabed. Benthic species in these areas such as surf	
	22 clams (ph) most likely would perish.	
CM2-17	23 Sedimentation is also a concern; sedimentation	
	24 impacts on essential fish habitat. The pipeline will be	
	25 located in a marine area that supports essential fish	
	26	

CM2-14 See the responses to comments CM1-23, CM1-31, and CM1-53.

CM2-15 Comment noted. Impacts on federally listed threatened and endangered species are discussed in Section 4.7 of the EIS.

CM2-16 Comment noted. Impacts on marine species are discussed in Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. Impacts on marine mammals are discussed in Section 4.5.2.2 of the EIS.

CM2-17 Comment noted. Sedimentation impacts on essential fish habitat (EFH) are discussed in Section 4.6.3.2 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

16

CM2-17  
(cont'd) 1 habitat for 21 species. Offshore excavations would create  
2 turbidity plumes in the water column that could clog fish  
3 gills, obscure visual stimuli, and reduce food intake for  
4 some fish.

CM2-18 5 Dredging of toxins. The waters off Gateway  
6 National Recreation Area are the site of some of the worst  
7 dumping along the East Coast. According to a 1970 report,  
8 it is part of the largest grossly polluted area in the  
9 United States, and contains lead, chromium, copper, gold,  
10 selenium, and zinc. These toxins have been buried and kept  
11 out of the waters for years, but they could be brought up by  
12 dredging related to this project, poisoning local fish and  
13 ruining commercial fisheries.

CM2-19 14 Finally, tonight at least, the mitigation  
15 procedures that are put forward are inadequate. While  
16 mitigation procedures such as monitoring protected species  
17 are described by Transco, and additional reviews of  
18 potential impacts have been recommended by FERC, we have no  
19 assurance that these measures will be sufficient to avoid  
20 unacceptable environmental harms. Certainly, certainly they  
21 will not protect us from the impacts of fracking and climate  
22 change. Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

25 Ida Sanoff.

26

CM2-18 See the response to comment CM1-85.

CM2-19 Assuming the Projects are authorized by the Commission, Transco would be required to follow the construction procedures and mitigation measures described in its applications and supplemental filings for the Projects, and as identified in the EIS, unless modified by the Commission's Order. See Recommendation 1 in Section 5.2 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

17

1 MS. SANOFF: Ida Sanoff, {spelling}. Executive  
2 Director of the Natural Resources Protective Association, a  
3 City-wide, all-volunteer nonprofit devoted to marine  
4 habitat, preservation and protection, open space protection  
5 and related issues. We were established in Staten Island in  
6 1977, and we work with groups throughout the City on issues  
7 of mutual concern.

CM2-20

8 Several years ago, I was one of a number of  
9 people who sat in this very room and attending a scoping  
10 meeting on the history and the future of Floyd Bennett  
11 Field. And at that time there was unanimous consensus that  
12 the only uses, future uses for Floyd Bennett Field would be  
13 historical, recreational, and environmental.

14 (Applause)

15 And in fact, at that time it was also mentioned  
16 that industrial uses would be discontinued or markedly  
17 reduced. And they specifically mentioned the existing  
18 Department of Sanitation facility here. So we in fact were  
19 fed a bill of goods. We were told what the uses were going  
20 to be; we were told that industrial uses would be reduced or  
21 discontinued, and now we're hearing just the opposite.

CM2-21

22 This project would directly impact 38 acres of  
23 seabed, with 402 acres impacted by sedimentation. This will  
24 mobilize any organic sediments in the area; it will result  
25 in increased bioaccumulation and bio-magnification, and

26

CM2-20

See the response to comment CM1-34.

CM2-21

See the response to comment CM1-85.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		18
CM2-21 (cont'd)	1	these impacts will ultimately end up on our dinner plates
	2	since the area is a very, very popular recreational fishing
	3	ground, and some of these fish move around and are
	4	commercially caught as well.
CM2-22	5	The HDD pit, we hate the word pit when it comes
	6	to Jamaica Bay because we have been fighting pits in the New
	7	York Bay since the late 1970s, because they create
	8	tremendous disruptions in marine biota. There will be
	9	excavation, there will be drilling fluids, biocides,
	10	substances toxic to aquatic life and by the way, we still
	11	don't even know the specific additives that will be used in
	12	the drilling fluid, though. Supposedly, we will find that
	13	out at some point in the future.
	14	There will certainly be impacts outside of the
	15	pit as a result of the inadvertent release of fluids; and by
	16	the way, something happened this summer underneath the
	17	Marine Park Bridge, where all of a sudden there was this
	18	stuff coming up from the bottom; but by the time BPC got
	19	there, everything was quiet.
CM2-23	20	The pit will be capped by four inches to two feet
	21	of material. Let us not forget that in the nor'easter of
	22	1992, the historic area remediation site off of Sandy Hook,
	23	New Jersey lost a quarter of a million cubic yards of pack
	24	material. After Hurricane Sandy, as anybody around here can
	25	tell you, the entire sea bottom was changed. There was
	26	

CM2-22

Comment noted. Impacts associated with the excavation of the HDD exit pit and the discharge of drilling fluid to the pit during construction are discussed throughout the EIS, but in particular in Sections 4.5.2 and 4.6.3.2 of the EIS. No portion of the Rockaway Project would be built within Jamaica Bay.

CM2-23

Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

19

1 debris embedded in the sea bottom, there were boats washed  
2 up on Jamaica Bay, and the marsh islands in Jamaica Bay.  
3 So if you think that your four inches to two feet  
4 of pack material is going to stay there forever, it's not.  
5 And anything you put in there is going to be redistributed.

CM2-24 6 This pipeline will require periodic maintenance  
7 every seven years, resulting in more disturbance of the sea  
8 bottom. Now the EIS says that establishment of successful  
9 communities of species resembling pre-trenching could take  
10 several years. So by the time all these communities have  
11 been reestablished, they're all going to be dug up again.

CM2-25 12 Now work is going to occur in the horseshoe  
13 crabs' courting season. And horseshoe crabs are very, very  
14 important; they spawn in this area, there will be  
15 substantial impacts on marine life and migratory birds, and  
16 this is absolutely inexcusable. And we also need to realize  
17 that the numbers of horseshoe crabs have been declining in  
18 recent years because sometimes they're taken for eel bait.  
19 And let us not forget that these creatures are essential for  
20 the sterility testing of injectable products, and they  
21 cannot be farmed.

22 So it is inexcusable to do anything that impacts  
23 horseshoe crabs populations. In addition, entrained and  
CM2-26 24 impinged organisms -- there will be entrained and impinged  
25 organisms on intake screens as water is withdrawn for  
26

CM2-24 Jetting impacts associated with offshore pipeline maintenance would be minor, displacing approximately 2,000 cubic yards of sediment and affecting about 0.82 acre of seabed once every 7 years. Additionally, we have added a recommendation that prior to construction, Transco should file an assessment of potential impacts on marine species due to operation of the cathodic protection system. See Section 4.6.4 of the EIS.

CM2-25 See the response to comment CM1-135. Impacts on marine species are discussed in Sections 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. Impacts on migratory birds are discussed in Section 4.5.2.4 of the EIS.

CM2-26 Comment noted. Impacts due to entrainment and impingement are discussed in Sections 4.5.2.1, 4.6.3.2, and 4.7.1 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

20

CM2-26  
(cont'd)

1 hydrostatic testing. This, too, will impact fish  
2 populations, because many of these will be larval organisms,  
3 which are essential in the food chain.

CM2-27

4 We also have concerns about fire hydrants. Fire  
5 hydrants and fire impacts, since it has long been known here  
6 that many of the fire hydrants at Floyd Bennett Field are  
7 inoperable. Some have said, "Well, we can pump water from  
8 Jamaica Bay in a fire" but from what I hear from friends in  
9 FDNY, it's difficult to get the required pressure. And as  
10 we all know that in the summer, the wind comes roaring in  
11 from the Southwest here, the grasses dry, we've had  
12 shoreline fires over the years. So again this is another  
13 hazard.

CM2-28

14 And last but not least, the EIS says that the M &  
15 R facility could be impacted by hurricane-force winds or  
16 flooding associated with a major storm. And it gives an 86  
17 percent chance of hurricane-force winds in a 50-year period.

18 Just about a year ago, Hurricane Sandy hit, and  
19 many areas that were not supposed to be impacted -- Bergen  
20 Beach was one of them -- all found their homes flooded. The  
21 water came right over the Belt Parkway. Stuff happens.

CM2-29

22 About two years ago, on Ocean Parkway in  
23 Brooklyn, the vicinity of Ocean Parkway, water somehow got  
24 into a gas pipeline. This is never, ever supposed to happen  
25 -- but it did. And it took months to clear up the problem.

26

CM2-27

See the response to comment CM1-11. As discussed in Section 4.12.3 of the EIS, no special fire-fighting apparatus is required to fight a high-pressure natural gas fire along the pipeline itself or at the M&R facility. The most effective and immediate way to address a high-pressure gas pipeline rupture is to shut off the gas source. To do so, Transco uses automatic rupture-detection valves and remote-controlled shut-off valves. Transco additionally would maintain hand-held dry chemical fire extinguishers for small fires and a sprinkler system at the M&R facility. With regard to fire hydrants on Floyd Bennett Field, Transco is working with the NPS and New York City Fire Department to evaluate the firefighting system for code compliance (e.g., hydrant spacing and flow). Transco would make any necessary repairs or improvements to the system in the vicinity of the M&R facility to bring it up to code prior to commencing with operation of the facility.

CM2-28

Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-8.

CM2-29

Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

21

CM2-30 1 This is just an accident waiting to happen; it  
2 does not belong in historic Floyd Bennett Field. The  
3 payoff, getting the exterior of two hangars rehabilitated,  
4 is literally selling the farm for peanuts; and this project  
5 is a disaster waiting to happen. And we strongly oppose it,  
6 and we will be submitting additional written comments.  
7 Thank you.  
8 (Applause)  
9 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
10 Reverend Ieva Zadina.  
11 REV. ZADINA: Hello. I'd like affirm everything  
12 that has been said so far. My name is Ieva Zadina  
13 (spelling). I'm a retired United Methodist pastor.  
14 I look at all of you. I think I'm older than any  
CM2-31 15 of you, and I heard at, one of the recent scientists I've  
16 heard is that within 17 years, the planet will be four  
17 degrees Centigrade hotter, and unlivable.  
18 Well, it doesn't matter too much to me, because  
19 I'm going to be 88 years old, although my mother lived to  
20 95; but I'm not that scared. I'm scared for you, I'm scared  
21 for all of our children and grandchildren. You know, I  
22 think -- I forget now, 89 percent of scientists in the world  
23 are agreeing that fossil fuel are causing climate change,  
24 and we really don't know exactly when it will get to that  
25 point of four degrees, because this has never happened  
26

CM2-30 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

CM2-31 Comment noted. The potential GHG emissions associated with the Projects are discussed in Section 4.11.1.4 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

22

CM2-31  
(cont'd)

1 before. We can't predict that well, but we know it will be  
2 very, very hard.

CM2-32

3 When I look at you, I think we all here, we feel  
4 a great deal of responsibility. You are our government, you  
5 are responsible for this country. We all are responsible  
6 for our children and really for our climate. And I appeal  
7 to you to think in the long term. In the short term, a few  
8 corporations will get a lot of money; some people will get  
9 short term jobs, but we all are going to suffer if we  
10 continue this path of using fossil fuels. I believe we do  
11 not need more natural gas. There's a great deal that can be  
12 done through conservation, and we're not going to do it  
13 until gas is more expensive and more limited; and that's the  
14 way it really should go; we don't need all this natural gas  
15 in New York City or anywhere else.

CM2-33

16 And of course we know that a lot of this will be  
17 exported to other countries when all this infrastructure,  
18 pipes all over the country, are going to be built. When you  
19 see the map it's just like a spider web. Pipes, pipes,  
20 compressor stations, all over the country.

21 Well, some of the countries feel that they need  
22 the natural gas, especially Japan for example, and I would  
23 like to help them; but I think that it will not help them.  
24 They also need to get alternative means of energy, conserve  
25 more, and to do renewables.

26

CM2-32

Section 1.1 of the EIS has been updated to include additional information regarding National Grid's need for the services that would be provided by the Projects.

CM2-33

The increased supply of natural gas in recent years has led a number of companies in the United States to propose to export natural gas in the form of LNG to other countries. Neither of the Projects is proposed to export LNG. As described in Section 1.1 of the EIS, the Projects would deliver natural gas to National Grid for use in the New York City market area.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

23

CM2-33  
(cont'd)

1 So I appeal to you to think in the long term.  
2 Thank you.  
3 (Applause)  
4 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
5 Eleanor Preiss.  
6 MS. PREISS: Hi. My name is Eleanor Preiss, P r  
7 e i s s.

CM2-34

8 Climate change is causing droughts, wildfires,  
9 floods, storms like we've never seen before, yet we continue  
10 to pump evermore CO2 and methane into the atmosphere.  
11 Wetlands and forests are disappearing. Our air and our land  
12 and our water is being poisoned. Species are going extinct.  
13 Yet corporations and governments continue to promote this  
14 unsustainable policy of growth, ignoring the reality of a  
15 planet with finite resources.  
16 FERC has a chance to contribute to stopping this  
17 awful process of degradation. The Energy in your name can  
18 be renewable. Thank you.  
19 (Applause)  
20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.  
21 Ed Berkowitz.  
22 MR. BERKOWITZ: Good evening. My name is Ed  
23 Berkowitz, I'm a private citizen. I live in Belle Harbor,  
24 New York on the Rockaway Peninsula. My schedule didn't call  
25 for me to be at yesterday's meeting, so I figured I'd take  
26

CM2-34

The potential air emissions impacts of the Projects are evaluated in Section 4.11.1.3 of the EIS. GHG emissions are evaluated in Section 4.11.1.4 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

24

1 the opportunity to be here at today's meeting in Brooklyn,  
2 which is right over from the Rockaway Peninsula.

CM2-35

3 We have some serious concerns about this  
4 pipeline. My concerns are slightly different than the  
5 concerns of quite a few of the people who I approve of. I  
6 understand there's concerns with the wildlife, I understand  
7 there's concerns with potential pollution that would damage  
8 the vicinity, but some of the concerns that I have are  
9 relating to people.

10 I have concerns that this is a very large  
11 potential safety issue. I have a concern that we're putting  
12 a natural gas pipeline that was underground, now we're  
13 bringing it up onto, over the Rockaway Peninsula into  
14 Brooklyn, right over the Marine Park Bridge. We're building  
15 a pipeline where we're putting a service station to maintain  
16 it above the ground. That is a potential hazard, in my  
17 opinion, safety hazard to people.

CM2-36

18 This thing could be affected by a potential  
19 explosion. There could be a potential terrorist threat that  
20 could affect this particular facility. We have a pipeline  
21 that wasn't really there before that is now exposed; there  
22 is so much public discussion about this that this now raises  
23 the idea that maybe this could be a target for somebody who  
24 wouldn't like to continue the peaceful enjoyment of the  
25 vicinity that we've been trying to have after Hurricane

26

CM2-35

See the response to comment CM1-53.

CM2-36

See the response to comment CM1-79.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	25	
CM2-36 (cont'd)	1	Sandy did quite a lot of devastation.
CM2-37	2	Now speaking of Hurricane Sandy, we're concerned
	3	that Hurricane Sandy could have another hurricane, Sandy II,
	4	that could also bring the kind of havoc that we saw in the
	5	past. We're still trying to recover, here in Belle Harbor,
	6	but this second hurricane could affect the facilities that
	7	are built at Floyd Bennett Field and the pipeline. Who
	8	knows if that won't get ruptured? Who knows if something
	9	catastrophic won't happen, and it could be a big fireball
	10	that would engulf parts of Rockaway and Brooklyn, and that
	11	could happen by nature, by a hurricane or it could actually
	12	happen perhaps by a terrorist attack.
CM2-38	13	I urge you to consider this: Nobody ever
	14	considered that the World Trade Center buildings could be
	15	brought down by airplanes. I recommend that you consider
	16	that this pipeline could be a real big disaster waiting to
	17	happen.
	18	Thank you very much.
	19	(Applause)
	20	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	21	Gay Snyder.
	22	MS. SNYDER: Good evening. Good to see you
	23	again.
CM2-39	24	My name is Gay Snyder. I happen to be a Park
	25	user. My family and I come here frequently, we hike, we
	26	

CM2-37 See the responses to comments CM1-8, CM1-50, and CM1-79.

CM2-38 Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-79.

CM2-39 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

26

CM2-39  
(cont'd)

1 garden, we observe nature, we enjoy the beauty and  
2 tranquility that is here, and I'm speaking here today to  
3 staunchly oppose the Rockaway Lateral Project.  
4 I wanted to mention that I'd like to incorporate  
5 by reference into my remarks the remarks made by other  
6 people. Among other things, I admire the remarks by Ms.  
7 Sanoff. She briefly touched upon the fire hazard issue.

CM2-40

8 What I wanted to mention is, in my opinion this  
9 area is specifically inappropriate, this geographic area is  
10 inappropriate for a pipeline and metering station. This  
11 area is a peninsula, it's surrounded by water on three  
12 sides, and the only thoroughfare in and out of here is  
13 Flatbush Avenue. That's where the City and National Grid is  
14 building their part of the pipeline, and just in the park,  
15 just off Flatbush Avenue, that's where they want to put the  
16 metering station, in Hangars 1 and 2.

CM2-41

17 In the event there was a significant gas leak or  
18 explosion, I feel that would be disastrous, because there's  
19 no road in or out of here other than Flatbush Avenue. I've  
20 been here when there's been big events such as the Color  
21 (ph) Run or the Kings County Fair. You could have hundreds  
22 of cars here with people, frequently they'll shut off the  
23 gate where the Aviator is, the entrance that's near here is  
24 often closed off, there's only one entrance by car in and  
25 out of here.

26

CM2-40 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-34.

CM2-41 See the response to comment CM1-11.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

27

CM2-41  
(cont'd)

1                   So imagine if you have a thousand or two thousand  
2 people here, there's an explosion or an accident, everyone's  
3 jumping into their cars. I've seen traffic up and down  
4 Flatbush Avenue. How would the fire department get here? I  
5 think this place is very, very poorly suited for a pipeline  
6 and metering station.

CM2-42

7                   Now to switch subjects, I wanted to mention that  
8 for over four decades, Gateway National Recreation Area,  
9 America's first urban national park, has been used by  
10 millions of people for a wide range of activities: camping,  
11 bird watching, bicycling, walking, fishing, driving remote  
12 control cars, kayaking, horseback riding, kite flying,  
13 swimming, running races, windsurfing, hiking, canoeing,  
14 archery, beachcombing, cross-country skiing, restoring  
15 historic aircraft, sailing, picnicking, golf, watching  
16 wildlife, gardening, star gazing, basketball, baseball, ice  
17 hockey, field hockey, kickball, flag football, Lacrosse,  
18 gymnastics, ice skating, soccer, rock climbing, tennis,  
19 volleyball. Metering and regulating natural gas? What's  
20 wrong with this picture.?

21                   I think it's obvious what's wrong with this  
22 picture. The metering station does not belong here in a  
23 recreational park. I wish I had enough time and could find  
24 the words to express the surprise that I saw a few weeks ago  
25 when a rabbit jumped out of a butterfly bush that I was  
26

CM2-42

See the response to comment CM1-33.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

28

1 watering here in Brooklyn. We don't see that very often in  
2 Brooklyn.

3 I wish I could explain to you my awe at seeing  
4 two vultures circling in the sky not far from the metering  
5 station. I hope that's not a hint of things to come.

6 I went on a boat trip the end of June, and not  
7 too far from here I saw an American bald eagle in the wild.  
8 That is a very unusual experience; you don't see that very  
9 often in Brooklyn or Queens.

CM2-43

10 So I'm asking you, please keep this a  
11 recreational park, not an industrial facility. And in  
12 closing, I wanted to mimic one of those Master Card  
13 commercials; the amount of money paid by Transco to the  
14 National Park Service to alienate these historic hangars for  
15 an industrial use, probably peanuts. The amount of money  
16 from that lease designated specifically for this park?  
17 Probably peanuts or nothing, because the statute, the New  
18 York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act, it  
19 specifically says merely that the money may be used for  
20 Gateway National Park. But it doesn't even have to be used  
21 for this park.

22 And then the last part of the equation on the  
23 Master Card commercials: Keeping this park a recreational  
24 area for the enjoyment of people and wildlife: Priceless.

25 Please keep this a recreational area. Thank you.

26

CM2-43

See the response to comment CM1-34.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

29

1

2

(Applause)

3

MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

4

Barbara Pearson.

5

MS. PEARSON: Hello. My name is Barbara Pearson,  
(spelling). I am a user of Gateway National Recreation  
Area.

7

8

I was at the meeting last night, so you probably  
know what I'm going to say now. But I'm here to hopefully  
give people some information about this that they don't  
have.

9

10

11

CM2-44

12

I oppose the siting of the metering and  
regulating station in Hangars 1 and 2 at Floyd Bennett Field  
because it is an inappropriate and illegal use of park land.  
The Draft Environmental Impact Statement refers to comments  
in favor of the M&R station because Aviator Sports uses  
other hangars.

13

14

15

16

17

18

Aviator is an appropriate use of the park land  
it's on. Aviator also represents a legitimate  
interpretation of the term, 'adaptive reuse.' I'm not fan  
of Aviator. I really don't like Aviator. But objectively,  
I can only conclude that Aviator is an appropriate use  
because it provides recreation to users of Gateway National  
Recreation Area. Now contrast that with the metering and  
regulating station; it provides no service or recreation to

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

CM2-44

See the response to comment CM1-34.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

30

CM2-44  
(cont'd)

1 people who are using the park.  
2 Contrary to what Transco and National Park  
3 Service claim, it is in direct conflict with the goals of  
4 the Gateway general management plan because it makes the  
5 park land on which it is built completely off-limits to  
6 users of the park; it provides no incentive to go to the  
7 park; and in fact for many people, it would be a  
8 disincentive. I call this a perversion of the concept of  
9 adaptive reuse.

CM2-45

10 The New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement  
11 Act that the Draft EIS references did not get NPS and  
12 Transco what they were promised, nor did it get Gateway what  
13 it was promised. U.S. Code Title XVI, Section 1(a)(2)(k)  
14 subjects leases to the following conditions: Buildings and  
15 associated property leased shall be used for an activity  
16 that is consistent with the purposes established by law for  
17 the unit in which the building is located. Shall not result  
18 in degradation of the purposes and values of the unit, and  
19 shall be compatible with National Park Service programs.

20 The New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement  
21 Act does not exempt who leased the lease for the M&R station  
22 from those conditions. In fact, it specifically states that  
23 the lease must be in accordance with that statute. Any  
24 lease for the M&R station would violate that statute.

25 Some of the people here tonight may have been  
26

CM2-45 See the response to comment CM1-34.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

31

CM2-45  
(cont'd)

1 sold on the M&R because they were told it will provide  
2 income to Gateway. But the law that Transco's pals passed  
3 does not guarantee that any of the lease proceeds will go to  
4 Gateway.

5 The original wording of the law is this: Rent  
6 proceeds and other fees generated shall be deposited in a  
7 special account dedicated solely for use in the Gateway  
8 National Recreation Area. Now that sounds like a really  
9 great thing for Gateway, but that is not what the final  
10 version of the law says. this is what it says: Proceeds  
11 from rental payments may be used at Gateway National  
12 Recreation Area. "May be used" is very, very different from  
13 "shall be used." Shall be deposited in a special account  
14 dedicated solely for use in the Gateway National Recreation  
15 Area.

16 As worded the law allows for discretion in how  
17 the money is used. The Secretary of the Interior does not  
18 have to allocate that money to Gateway.

19 Another little-known fact is that the Secretary  
20 of the Interior can choose to conduct anything that Transco  
21 pays to rehabilitate the hangers from the leasing fees. So  
22 we're being told that not only will the hangars be  
23 refurbished, there will also be income from leasing fees,  
24 but that is also not guaranteed to happen. Transco could  
25 have to pay zero dollars in leasing fees.

26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

32

CM2-45  
(cont'd)

1                   So what is being sold as a windfall for Gateway  
2                   has absolutely no guarantee of being that at all. The  
3                   language of these laws is very simple, and I have printouts  
4                   to give anyone who wants to read it.

CM2-46

5                   This project has been in the works for at least  
6                   four years, and virtually none of us knew anything about it  
7                   until after deals were made, testimony was given, and laws  
8                   were passed. Transco did not take timely steps to inform  
9                   the public that they claim to have taken, and the FERC staff  
10                  has not taken them to task for that.

CM2-47

11                  NPS also violated its own policies on public  
12                  engagement. I came here tonight because I had a problem  
13                  with being lied to. If anyone here to night has a problem  
14                  with it also, see me before you leave and I will give you  
15                  detailed information on the illegality of putting this  
16                  metering and regulating station in our park. Thank you.

17                  (Applause)

18                  MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

19                  Did Craig Stevens come back?

20                  Karen Orlando.

21                  (Audience remarks.)

22                  MS. HARRIS: We'll go with Karen Orlando.

23                  MS. ORLANDO: My name is Karen Orlando. I just  
24                  want to make sure you can hear me because my ear is clogged  
25                  and I can't actually hear myself, so.

26

CM2-46           See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM2-47           Your opposition to Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

33

1 I'm a resident of Brooklyn, and I am a Gateway  
2 National Recreation Area user. I am a permit holder as a  
3 member of the Floyd Bennett Garden Association. The gardens  
4 sit a few hundred feet behind the historic hangars where the  
5 metering and regulating station is proposed.

CM2-48 6 I oppose placing the metering and regulating  
7 station in those hangars, and I also opposed the bill, as  
8 thousands of people did. Thousands of people signed a  
9 petition against that bill, and hundreds wrote letters,  
10 postmarked letters which went to the National Park Service,  
11 which went to Senators, and one congressperson did say no to  
12 that bill, and that was Yvette Clark.

CM2-49 13 This project was introduced to the public at a  
14 meeting here in Aviator in April of 2012. That meeting  
15 occurred three years after Transco first entered into pre-  
16 filing, in 2009. The pre-file on this project is PF09-8.  
17 So three years into the pre-file process, and the pre-file  
18 process is supposed to involve stakeholders early, right? I  
19 think that's the goal of the pre-file process, to have all  
20 the stakeholders called to the table to discuss things.

21 So three years into the pre-file process, Transco  
22 had a public meeting. They introduced this project to the  
23 public in April of 2012. Before this project was introduced  
24 to the public in April of 2012, the National Park Service  
25 testified in Congress twice in support of this bill. This  
26

CM2-48 Your opposition to Rockaway Project is noted.

CM2-49 See the responses to comments CM1-1 and CM1-12.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

34

CM2-49  
(cont'd)

1 bill allows the pipe to go underneath Jacob Riis Beach, and  
2 it also alienates a piece of Floyd Bennett Field; it allows  
3 Williams and National Grid to build a metering and  
4 regulating station in historic hangars at Floyd Bennett  
5 Field.

6 The National Park Service testified twice in the  
7 House, and they also testified to a Senate subcommittee  
8 prior to these public meetings. The National Park Service  
9 at no time prior to their testimony and to this day has  
10 asked the public for any input about placing this facility  
11 in this park, in these historic hangars. This violates the  
12 civic engagement policies of the National Park Service.

CM2-50

13 In addition, the National Park Service, in  
14 written answer back and forth with the Senate subcommittee,  
15 already found no impact from this project. I have the Draft  
16 Environmental Impact Statement in front of me. The FERC is  
17 issuing this. The National Park Service in testimony in  
18 Congress, written, already declared that there was no impact  
19 from this metering and regulating station in the park.

20 They did so prior to public scoping, they did so  
21 prior to all of the information that's released on air and  
22 noise. That information only came in and was made available  
23 to the public in January of 2013, in Williams' application,  
24 January, 2013.

CM2-51

25 This is what the National Park Service's role has  
26

CM2-50

See the responses to comments CM1-1, CM1-12, and CM1-44.

CM2-51

See the responses to comments CM1-1, CM1-12, and CM1-44.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

35

CM2-51  
(cont'd)

1 been so far in this process. In addition, I attended a  
2 meeting in August of 2012 as a stakeholder, with Williams  
3 and the National Park Service. This was after the public  
4 scoping period, when apparently it seems that people found  
5 out that there are actually park users, recreational users  
6 who use the park in near vicinity of the historic hangers.  
7 Because the National Park Service, it seems, never thought  
8 to include the public users of the park prior to that time  
9 period.

10 So I attended the meeting with the National Park  
11 Service, and at the time it was the position of the National  
12 Park Service that H.R. 2606 would only allow them to engage  
13 in conversations with the gas companies. This is what the  
14 National Park Service told people that belonged to the  
15 community garden at a meeting with Williams and Transco: At

CM2-52

16 the same time Williams wanted to haggle with us about  
17 defining the metering and regulating station as industrial;  
18 even though Williams says that this is an industrial use in  
19 their early resource reports and basically everywhere. They  
20 wanted to argue with me that this was a industrial facility.  
21 That happened in 2012.

CM2-53

22 At no time has the National Park Service not  
23 cheer-leaded this project. I've had many conversations with  
24 people from the National Park Service; it's not like they  
25 said they're weighing the project. They're in support of

26

CM2-52

Land use and land cover types are defined and identified in Sections 4.8.1.1 and 4.8.1.2 of the EIS, respectively. As indicated in Section 4.8.1.1 of the EIS, onshore land uses that would be affected by the Rockaway Project within the GNRA were characterized according to the 1979 General Management Plan (GMP) as well as the draft GMP/EIS issued in August 2013. The NPS anticipates finalizing the revised GMP by the spring of 2014.

CM2-53

See the response to comment CM1-12.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		36
CM2-53 (conf'd)	1	it, they were already decided. And as I said the public had
	2	no, no, absolute zero -- there's not a single document that
	3	you can find that shows the National Park Service ever
	4	included the public in their decision to testify in support
	5	of placing this facility in the park, and it violates their
	6	own policies.
	7	So I actually probably have some other things to
CM2-54	8	say about that, but then I think I want to talk about the
	9	Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project, Northeast Connector
	10	Project, which is a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
	11	that I'm looking at here, which is the size of a telephone
	12	book. And there are still some things that are missing,
	13	because the FERC has asked for an HDD engineer to come and
	14	look at it for the feasibility of the HDD underneath Riis,
	15	out into the ocean.
CM2-55	16	This is something that's still outstanding, and
	17	as Ida Sanoff said, another thing that's outstanding
	18	actually are the drilling fluids that are going to be used
	19	as well as what their toxicity is, what their
	20	bioaccumulation is, and these materials is described, I
	21	think, as 10,000 cubic yards -- I'm not sure if it's yards
	22	or feet -- but it's a lot of material that Williams is just
	23	going to be releasing into a pit in the ocean. This isn't
	24	an accidental release, it's a planned release.
CM2-56	25	So when we have to weigh impact, when we know
	26	

CM2-54 See the response to comment CM1-142.

CM2-55 Comment noted. The ecotoxicity of drilling fluids is discussed in Section 4.6.3.2 of the EIS.

CM2-56 See the response to comment CM2-32

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

37

CM2-56  
(cont'd)

1 that there's going to be considerable impact in the ocean  
2 from this project, we also want to weigh it against what the  
3 benefits of the project are. The benefits of this project  
4 are overstated, and they've been overstated for years now.

CM2-57

5 Barbara Pearson was talking about H.R. 2606. The  
6 title of the bill is, the New York City Natural Gas Supply  
7 Enhancement Act. Enhancement as in the Rockaway Delivery  
8 Lateral Project was supposed to enhance the natural gas  
9 supply in New York City. Now it turns out that the Rockaway  
10 Delivery Lateral Project actually requires the Northeast  
11 Connector Project, which is the compression work at the  
12 three stations from New Jersey up to -- I'm not sure if it's  
13 Pennsylvania. It requires that project in order to enhance  
14 the natural gas supply in New York City.

15 That's not in the bill. That was not discussed  
16 in the bill. In testimony from the New York City Mayor's  
17 Office, the New York City Mayor said that the Rockaway  
18 Delivery Lateral Project was going to deliver 100,000  
19 decatherms per day of incremental gas supply into New York  
20 City.

CM2-58

21 In FERC's document they acknowledge that the  
22 Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project plus the Northeast  
23 Connector Project are only in small part -- and this is  
24 probably close to word-for-word what they said in this draft  
25 document: Are probably -- are only in small part about

26

CM2-57

See the responses to comments CM1-12, CM1-41, and CM2-56. Both Projects are evaluated in the EIS.

CM2-58

The delivery services and amount of new incremental supply that would be provided by the Projects are described in Section 1.1 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM2-56.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

38

CM2-58  
(cont'd)

1 increased supply. 85 percent of the gas is already  
2 delivered into the area. Only 15 percent, which is 100,000  
3 decatherms, is new supply. They didn't say that about the  
4 Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project, they said that about the  
5 Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project plus the Northeast  
6 Connector Project.

CM2-59

7 So in addition to the fact that there are two  
8 things that are pretty substantial that are missing from the  
9 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. There's a theme here  
10 of what's been missing. What was missing was public  
11 involvement in the National Park Service's decision to  
12 testify in support of this bill. What was missing was the  
13 public knowing actually that this bill even existed.

CM2-60

14 I'm try and think of what else I was going to say  
15 was missing, because I think there's still some other things  
16 that are missing. I know that I was not represented by my  
17 congresspeople.

CM2-61

18 Also, two things that were missing and have been  
19 outstanding, actually, since the pre-file period. There  
20 were two questions; one of them was about which hydrants  
21 work and which hydrants do not work at Floyd Bennett Field.  
22 That question was asked last year at the scoping meeting in  
23 June. It has not been answered by Williams, by anybody.

CM2-62

24 The second question is a question that I asked  
25 about a program at the National Park Service at Gateway  
26

CM2-59 See the response to comment CM1-12.

CM2-60 Comment noted.

CM2-61 See the responses to comments CM1-11 and CM2-27.

CM2-62 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

39

CM2-62  
(cont'd)

1 National Recreation Area. So they belong to some green car  
2 program where they had signed on and they get stars or  
3 whatever it is, and they were supposed to reduce emissions  
4 in the park. The metering and regulating station is a  
5 stationary source of new emissions. That question has never  
6 been answered.

CM2-63

7 In addition, there's been no answer as to how the  
8 metering and regulating station fits in with Gateway's  
9 general management plan. And I'd like to point out that  
10 Gateway, the park itself, was involved in more than one  
11 public outreach process, during the time period that they  
12 didn't ask the public about whether we wanted this facility  
13 in our park or not. One of them is the outreach for their  
14 general management plan.

15 MS. HARRIS: Karen, could you wrap it up so we  
16 can hear from others?

17 MS. ORLANDO: Yes.

18 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

CM2-64

19 MS. ORLANDO: I still think there's probably  
20 outstanding issues that need to come in, but the one thing  
21 that I did want to point out which was brought up earlier is  
22 that when Williams submitted their application, they were  
23 not in compliance with, I think it's Regulation 154.  
24 Because at the time that Williams put this application in  
25 for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project, they said "We are

26

CM2-63

See the responses to comments CM1-1 and CM1-34.

CM2-64

See the response to comment CM1-41.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

40

CM2-64  
(cont'd)

1 not aware of any other application that is necessary for us  
2 to effectuate our project." And then three months later,  
3 they submitted the Northeast Connector, which they knew they  
4 needed. They knew they were going to submit that, so their  
5 application was also fraudulent.

6 Thanks.

7 MS. HARRIS: Thank you, Karen.

8 (Applause)

9 MS. HARRIS: Joe Nerone.

10 MR. NERONE: My name is Joe Nerone, N e r o n e.

CM2-65

11 There has not been enough information about this  
12 project. I'd like to prove my point. You are Dave Avrin,  
13 right?

14 MR. AVRIN: Yes.

15 MR. NERONE: Okay. You were at a meeting on  
16 September 9th discussing a new schedule for the pipeline  
17 construction. Am I correct?

18 MR. AVRIN: Maybe you are.

19 MR. NERONE: I have the minutes of this meeting.  
20 You were either on the telephone or you were physically at a  
21 meeting with Williams about the new construction schedule.

22 MR. AVRIN: It's possible.

23 MR. NERONE: I have the minutes here.

24 So let me ask you a question. Can you tell me  
25 how many crash bollards are going to be placed around the  
26

CM2-65

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

41

1 historic airplane hangars?

2 MS. HARRIS: Joe, we're really here to hear your  
3 comments. We put all the details in the Draft. We need to  
4 get the response from the Draft.

5 MR. NERONE: Okay. Is Steve Zahn in the house?  
6 Steve Zahn from the DEC. I'd like to set the record  
7 straight.

CM2-66 8 I can tell you what chemicals they're going to be  
9 using when they drill under the beach in July. If they're  
10 using Mitchells, the same company that did the drilling --  
11 which is what I've been assured from the engineers at  
12 Transcontinental -- they're going to be using Barricade.  
13 There are hydrocarbons in Barricade; it's in the Material  
14 Safety Data Sheet.

15 They're also going to be using Swellstop. I  
16 watched the flatbed trucks deliver it. They will be using  
17 tons of Swellstop. The exit pit is going to be 15,000 cubic  
18 yards. 15,000 cubic yards of horizontal directional  
19 drilling mud is going to be accumulating 3,000 feet from --  
20 depends on who you believe -- the numbers are a million  
21 people use this beach in a given month. But that's not what  
22 Transco said most recently.

CM2-67 23 Most recently the way Transco came up with the  
24 numbers for the beach users was based on parking permits.  
25 This is New York City; not too many people drive to the  
26

CM2-66 Comment noted.

CM2-67 See the response to comment CM1-138.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

42

CM2-67  
(cont'd)

1 beach. Am I correct, Dave Avrin?

CM2-68

2 I have a letter here from the National Parks  
3 Conservation Association. I would just like to say one --  
4 read one thing that they said here. The National Parks  
5 Conservation Association on June 24, 2012 said: NPCA is,  
6 however, very concerned about and objects to the placement  
7 of the metering and regulating facility in one of the  
8 historic hangars at Floyd Bennett Field within Gateway. We  
9 believe instead they should be placed somewhere else.

10 Sometimes from Chris Jones in the application at  
11 4G and also Bryan Olsens had some questions about the  
12 placement of the metering and regulating station in these  
13 historic structures. I believe there's going to be 16 crash

CM2-69

14 bollards that are going to be placed around the historic  
15 airplane hangar. At night they're going to be illuminated  
16 so that nobody drives into them. There will be eight  
17 exhaust fans on the roof over the metering and regulating  
18 station. We're not sure about how many signs there are.  
19 Today was the first day I saw the plans in the Ryan Visitor  
20 Center. I don't understand how this Section 106 process is  
21 happening. I would like to see a little more information at  
22 the Ryan Visitors Center. Perhaps some other images of what  
23 the hangars will look like from the outside would be useful.  
24 Both during the daytime and at night. We would like to see  
25 how high the crash bollards are; we'd like to know how many  
26

CM2-68

Comment noted.

CM2-69

The Section 106 process for the Projects is discussed in Section 4.10 of the EIS. Documents made available for public review at the Ryan Visitor Center during the draft EIS comment period include a set of construction drawings and plans, the Historic Structures Report, and a Building Protection Plan (also referred to as a Construction Protection Plan (CPP)). Renderings of the restored hangar complex are available on the FERC's eLibrary website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)) under Docket No. CP13-36-000. As discussed in Section 4.10.1 of the EIS, Transco proposes to install steel bollards at 4-foot intervals in front of the rolling hangar doors on the north and south sides of Hangar 1 (for a total of about 37 bollards in front of each door) for protection against rolling vehicles. Transco anticipates that every fourth bollard would be illuminated so the bollards are visible at night.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	43	
CM2-69 (cont'd)	1	there are and how bright they are going to be.
CM2-70	2	The FERC cannot issue a certification to
	3	Transcontinental Pipeline because it will facilitate
	4	imported natural gas from foreign countries when there are
	5	abundant domestic natural gas sources. The president's
	6	energy policy calls for us to fully develop domestic sources
	7	of energy. If the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project is
	8	approved, that will facilitate the capacity in the line for
	9	the Fort Ambrose project, which wants to import natural gas
	10	from Trinidad and Tobago. This would go against the
	11	congressional mandate that FERC is supposed to do, FERC is
	12	supposed to first work the companies to fully develop our
	13	domestic gas sources, and I might add when Rim was
	14	testifying for this legislation, he said this was a boom to
	15	domestic gas sources. He didn't say it's going to be
	16	helpful in importing natural gas from Trinidad and Tobago.
CM2-71	17	I want to remind people that Floyd Bennett Field
	18	is part of the National Park Service, not the 'Industrial
	19	Park Service'. Thank you for your time.
	20	(Applause)
	21	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	22	Would you say your name.
	23	MR. STEVENS: Craig Stevens (spelling). I'm a
	24	sixth generation landowner in Silver Lake Township,
CM2-72	25	Pennsylvania. I'm here for one reason: education. The
	26	

CM2-70

See Sections 1.2.1 and 3.3.8 of the EIS as well as the response to comment CM1-43.

CM2-71

Comment noted.

CM2-72

Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

44

CM2-72  
(cont'd)

1 good people here and in other parts of the country that are  
2 having these projects forced on them, I am a partner with  
3 Williams; I have a 16-inch high pressure gas line that was  
4 put across my property, not by Williams; by Laser Midstream;  
5 Williams bought it.

6 In the process of putting that pipeline into my  
7 property, they blew out the creek in my backyard -- it was a  
8 pristine trout stream. They blew it out eight times over  
9 two and a half months. They filled my entire trout stream  
10 in two and a half months full of -- they called it 'drilling  
11 mud.' When you call, they say it's 'midnight clay'; it's  
12 the same thing that's used at the health spas, until you  
13 look it up, and FERC can do that. There's 30 different  
14 types of midnight clay for drilling. There's some that's  
15 mixed with aluminum, barium and other chemicals that none of  
16 us would want to have in our mud bath in the spa.

CM2-73

17 One thing that Williams is really good at, I've  
18 learned, is segmenting all these processes. I've also been  
19 speaking out against the Constitution Pipeline, which starts  
20 in my backyard in Brooklyn Township, Pennsylvania and goes  
21 to Albany. It's an 122-mile long, 30-inch pipeline, high  
22 pressure gas line that had one -- on the FERC filing it had  
23 one compressor station on the entire line. Then they  
24 removed it. So I'm trying to figure out if FERC can look  
25 into, the 16-inch line that goes 33 miles across my  
26

CM2-73

Comment noted. The proposed Constitution Pipeline is not the subject of this EIS, but is evaluated as a potential alternative to the Projects in Section 3.3.7 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		45
CM2-73 (cont'd)	1	property, half a mile across my property, 33 miles from
	2	Princeville, Pennsylvania to Windsor, New York, why does it
	3	have 12 to 14 compressor stations either built or being put
	4	in, on one 16-inch high pressure line?
	5	How is Williams going to build a pipeline that's
	6	30 inches in diameter, goes 122 miles, and has not one
	7	compressor station? They want to build the I-81 corridor
	8	pipeline from Binghamton, just above me, up to Syracuse
	9	area. The same thing.
	10	The reason I'm bringing this up is, we don't
CM2-74	11	trust Williams, not one bit. Let me tell you why. Are you
	12	aware that Williams, from March of 2012 until 15 months
	13	after that, had no less than five compressor stations
	14	exploded, on fire. Three of them in my neighborhood. All
	15	three owned by Williams, and then they got further, the last
	16	one was in New Jersey. I believe that's in a Class 4 or 5
	17	district; not in Class 1 where we live.
	18	Every single time we had an explosion and fire,
	19	we're a Class 1, nobody came in. No FERC, no EMSA, no
	20	state, no local authority; they just started rebuilding the
	21	compressor station the next day. We want to know who's in
	22	charge of this, and who is mapping this all out, because it
CM2-75	23	can't be Williams; it's got to be you guys. I mean, I
	24	didn't know the federal government was in charge of allowing
	25	the energy companies to put tens of thousands of miles of
	26	

CM2-74 See the responses to comments CM1-23 and CM1-31.

CM2-75 The role of the FERC in approving or denying interstate natural gas pipelines is discussed in Section 1.2.1 of the EIS. The acquisition of easements for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral is addressed in Section 4.8.2 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

46

CM2-75  
(cont'd)

1 pipelines through our property, and let's get to that.  
2 Please remember, most of the time this is our private  
3 property. There's a constitution of the United States,  
4 there is a Fifth Amendment.

5 These guys try to take our property -- they tried  
6 to take my property three times to put that pipeline in  
7 using certificate of public convenience. For what? The

CM2-76

8 other thing FERC is going to have to prove is, not one bit  
9 of this gas can go overseas or be exported. Otherwise, any  
10 taking that was used to do it was an illegal taking.

11 (Applause)

12 Are we clear about that? Any taking to build a  
13 pipeline can only be used when it's brought in for public  
14 use. To reverse it and take it out to India, China, Norway,  
15 Japan and Russia who are waiting for our natural gas is an  
16 illegal use and is a violation of the Fifth Amendment of the  
17 Constitution. I don't care if you take that from a city, a  
18 county, a state or a private residence like me.

CM2-77

19 Now you're going to hear how safe these are,  
20 these pipelines are. You can Google it just like I can.  
21 Pipeline safety in the United States. Pipeline explosions  
22 in the U.S. For the first hundred and something years,  
23 hundreds of explosions and fires. Let's just go for the  
24 last 13 years: hundreds more. Hundreds of incidents. The  
25 last large one was in West Virginia, right below my state,

26

CM2-76

See the response to comment CM2-33.

CM2-77

Comment noted. Also see the responses to comments CM1-23 and CM1-31.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

47

CM2-77  
(cont'd)

1 where a 16-inch line broke open, lit on fire, created an  
2 120-yard blowtorch that melted asphalt, 700 feet of asphalt  
3 on both sides of the road in West Virginia. Melted asphalt.  
4 Four homes were in the way. They didn't get  
5 burned down; they were incinerated to carbon dust. Not one  
6 frame of a refrigerator or bed frame made of metal was left.  
7 That's how hot these burn. They will melt anything in their  
8 path, they burn for hours and hours, because it takes that  
9 long to try to turn off the flow. I want to know who's in  
10 charge of that. There aren't many automatic shutoff valves;  
11 they're manual, and they don't start trying to turn that  
12 until the explosion happens.

CM2-78

13 I expect the federal government -- I pay tax  
14 dollars to protect me, not to protect the interests of  
15 companies who are signing agreements with foreign countries  
16 to export our natural gas. By the way, I brought this to

CM2-79

17 remind you where this gas comes from. It comes from my back  
18 yard, my neighbor's property. This is what they get for the  
19 gas boom. That's my neighbor Ray Kimbel's water from Demik,  
20 Pennsylvania.

21 (Holding up plastic jug with water.)

22 You probably know where Demik is, it's the same  
23 investigated area that is Parker County, Texas, Pavilion,  
24 Wyoming, and Demik, Pennsylvania. Guess where I was on  
25 August 13th? At EPA headquarters in Washington, D.C. We

26

CM2-78 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM2-33.

CM2-79 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

48

CM2-79  
(cont'd)

1 demanded a hearing with the Director, Jim McCarthy. We gave  
2 them 30 days. Thirty days they called us, said they would  
3 have a meeting. On September the 25th, myself, Ray Kimbel  
4 and John Fenton from Pavilion, Wyoming and Steve Lipsky and  
5 his wife and Shelly Purdue were in the EPA headquarters. We  
6 were given a 45-minute meeting. It went over an hour and a  
7 half.

8           You know why? Because they were kind of  
9 interested to find out that the DEP, through right to know,  
10 took a year and were sued. They refused to release  
11 documents that said water contamination had happened from  
12 gas drilling in the State of Pennsylvania. So they were  
13 sued. And the Scranton Times-Tribune, the largest paper in  
14 Northeastern Pennsylvania, won. 161 documents that say  
15 this: The Department investigation indicates that gas well  
16 drilling has impacted your private water well supply.

17           That had never seen the light of day. These are  
18 some documents that are five years old. You're being told  
19 this is safe, and I'm telling you right now, I can introduce  
20 you to 40 of my neighbors that live with plastic water tanks  
21 where their water wells used to produce clean water for  
22 their family.

23           I've been on the same property, my family, for  
24 181 years. My water has been impacted. Many of my  
25 neighbors have been impacted. Do you know what the answer

26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

49

CM2-79  
(cont'd)

1 is? "We didn't do it" that's what the industry will tell  
2 you.

CM2-80

3 What these pipelines do is bring in more gas,  
4 more need to drill. I'm wondering why we're drilling  
5 anyway? Anybody notice the price go down from \$14 a  
6 thousand at the wellhead to \$2 last year? They're  
7 overproducing. From what I hear from the industry  
8 themselves, we have over eight years' worth of natural gas  
9 that are current use, in the ground right now. They're  
10 stuffing it in salt caverns, they're holding it in these  
11 pipelines, the can't transport any more, they're full.  
12 That's what they want to build them, they're filling up this  
13 giant infrastructure of natural gas on hold. For what?

14 Until you guys, FERC and MARAD give them the  
15 right to put in export facilities -- call them import,  
16 because if they call them export they get in trouble. But I  
17 notice that it's a very quick process to switch it around to  
18 export. Because they're going to go "Hey, there's no  
19 import."

CM2-81

20 You know the Gloucester, Mass. facility was  
21 closed just recently. The owner said there is no such thing  
22 as imported gas, they haven't done any business for three  
23 years, so MARAD gave them a five year hold on their license  
24 to do business. Why? Why have they not brought any gas in?  
25 This is going to all be for importers. No, it's export  
26

CM2-80

See Section 3.3.8 of the EIS and the response to comment CM1-43.

CM2-81

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM2-33.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

50

CM2-81  
(cont'd)

1 only.

CM2-82

2 Here's the documents, the EPA knows. I was on  
3 the phone with Sean Garvin, that's Region 3 and also with  
4 Arny Gannison (ph), that's the right hand man to Jim  
5 McCarthy. They're aware of the problems that are happening  
6 on the other end of this.

7 You're responsible, when you promote this and let  
8 them build these for people getting their water contaminated  
9 all over the United States of America. These are private  
10 citizens that had clean water before the natural gas  
11 industry came in and did what they call is safe.

12 You know what their answer is when we say "Hey,  
13 you were drilling a bunch of holes in here, my water went  
14 bad." They say "Hey, we didn't do it. Prove it. By the  
15 way, we have a billion dollars in the bank. How's your war  
16 chest to come and fight us?" It's not. Anybody seen that?

17 That's the PowerPoint presentation that was  
18 released by the whistleblower from EPA that says "Why did  
19 you leave Demik? There's massive contamination there. Why  
20 would you guys take off and leave those people to fend for  
21 themselves?"

22 Here's three documents from the DEP. Three  
23 documents over one and a half years that found Cabot guilty  
24 of contaminating 19 private water wells and homes in Demik,  
25 Pennsylvania. Guilty. They paid \$4.1 million in a

26

CM2-82

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

51

CM2-82  
(cont'd)

1 settlement agreement that the state set up. They paid a  
2 million and a half dollars to deliver water to private  
3 properties, a million and a half dollars. A million dollars  
4 in fines. And guess who the number one driller in the State  
5 of Pennsylvania is now? Cabot Oil and Gas -- they're still  
6 going, nobody shut them down. That's interesting.

CM2-83

7 You know, after you contaminate 19 people's water  
8 supply, guess what they do to you in Susquehanna County  
9 where I live? Give you 'Business of the Year in 2012.'

10 You know why? They donated three and a half  
11 million dollars to our hospital building. So our new  
12 hospital is mostly funded by Cabot Oil & Gas. Isn't that  
13 nice? I called the CO of the hospital and congratulated him  
14 on his ability to raise some money. I said "What did they  
15 want for it?" He said, 'they didn't ask us for anything for  
16 it.'

17 I said, "You need to watch Godfather I and  
18 Godfather II again, because they're going to make you an  
19 offer you can't refuse when they help you build your  
20 hospital." I asked him before he hung up "Hey, Rex, are you  
21 going to have a good cancer ward?" He said 'State of the  
22 art.' I said "Good, because we're going to need it."

23 Why am I saying that? Anybody here looked up  
24 list of the harm before? Over 1600 names and incidents on  
25 this from all over the country, 40 different states, listing  
26

CM2-83

Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

52

CM2-83  
(cont'd)

1 the contamination from gas drilling and pipeline  
2 installation activity. Just look it up; these aren't made-  
3 up stories; these are the stories that are linked to the TV  
4 stations or the newspapers that wrote the articles about  
5 Cabot.

CM2-84

6 I'm getting tired of this. We're being lied to.  
7 Why wouldn't the State of Pennsylvania want to help us when  
8 we called them? I'll tell you why. There's fracking and  
9 the revolving door in Pennsylvania. That's a 50 page  
10 document. Do you know how many of our former governors of  
11 Pennsylvania work in the oil and gas industry now? The last  
12 five.

13 You know how many of our DEP heads, that headed  
14 the DEP work for the oil and gas industry? The last six.

CM2-85

15 Is thing on? Am I getting through to you? This  
16 infrastructure buildup is contaminating and poisoning me and  
17 my neighbors to bring very dangerous, high pressure  
18 pipelines through here, and the drilling line and all this -  
19 - they're going to blow this out. They'll tell you that  
20 they're doing this for 100 years or 70 years or 50 years and  
21 they're experts. I want to know why they couldn't put a  
22 simple pipeline underneath the creek in my back yard. It  
23 took them two and a half months.

24 The five times they blew it out and filled the  
25 creek -- they got tired of getting people mad at them for  
26

CM2-84

Comment noted.

CM2-85

Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

53

CM2-85  
(cont'd)

1 doing that, so they dammed the creek off, completely dammed  
2 it. Dried the whole thing up, rerouted the creek, and then  
3 blew it out three more times until they got through, because  
4 if at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

CM2-86

5 I don't know if anybody here knows what the  
6 definition of insanity is from Albert Einstein, but it's  
7 doing the same thing over and over again, expecting  
8 different results. Everywhere we look there are problems  
9 with this. I'm not against natural gas, I'm not against oil  
10 or anything else; that's not what I'm standing in front of  
11 you for.

12 I'm telling you, we've had enough of this. These  
13 good people here don't need to have this giant ticking time  
14 bomb brought into their back yard. For what? What are we  
15 bringing it in for?

16 You know, I picked up -- I'll finish up, I'm  
17 finishing up now -- that's \$100 million right there.  
18 (Holding up plastic bag stuffed with bills.) Those are  
19 million dollar bills, and they're as fake as any promise any  
20 of you are being made in this room and at this Panel.  
21 That's it. And if this is all about the money, where is the  
22 money? Because none of us are getting it; it's going to  
23 their pocket.

24 I'm going to finish with Martin Luther King.  
25 Pretty smart guy as far as I'm concerned. He said: On some  
26

CM2-86

Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		54
CM2-86 (cont'd)	1 positions cowardice asked the question, "is it safe?" 2 Expediency asked the question, "is it politic?" Vanity 3 asked the question, "is it popular?" But conscience asked 4 the question, "is it right?" 5 This is wrong. It's wrong for everybody in this 6 room, everyone who lives in this area, and it will only 7 benefit a few big corporations, and we're tired of getting 8 pushed around by these guys. Just say no to this project. 9 Thank you. 10 (Applause) 11 MS. HARRIS: Thank you. 12 Lois Pinetree. 13 MS. PINETREE: My name is Lois Pinetree. I am a 14 gardener at Floyd Bennett Association. I'm a park user, and 15 so many people have made so many wonderful points today. I 16 would like to address a somewhat different point. As the 17 Lorax speaks for the trees, I would like to speak for the 18 birds, the plants and the bees at Gateway National Park. 19 And I would like to tell you that they do not 20 like methane, in particular. They do not need toxic 21 emissions from a plant, a meter station in their midst, And 22 I'm also going to speak for myself as a park user. 23 If this metering station is built, heaven forbid, 24 it would be right clearly in the midst of the Floyd Bennett 25 Garden Community gardens as far as I'm concerned. Adjacent 26	

CM2-87 Comment noted.

CM2-88 Section 4.8.7 of the EIS includes a discussion of impacts on the Community Garden at Floyd Bennett Field. Impacts on wildlife and birds are discussed in Section 4.5 of the EIS. No portion of the Rockaway Project would be constructed within Jamaica Bay.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

55

CM2-88  
(cont'd)

1 maybe by a couple hundred yards from the wildlife habitat,  
2 which is a really unique place in Brooklyn. A few more  
3 yards from the grasslands, which are a major bird sanctuary  
4 which is supported by the Audubon Society and many, many  
5 resources have gone into supporting the habitat of birds in  
6 the grasslands. And of course adjacent and right -- the  
7 pipeline right in the middle of Jamaica Bay,

CM2-89

8 Birds do not like methane, and perhaps you've  
9 heard the story of the canary in the mines. Miners will  
10 carry a small canary in a cage when they go to the mines,  
11 because if there's a leak, the bird will die and they knew  
12 that they had to get out of the mine.

13 I don't want to be here when the birds start  
14 dying. And I suspect that the metering station -- I have  
15 been a gardener since 1997 at Floyd Bennett Field and I am  
16 an avid park user. And I suspect that if this metering  
17 station is built, I would no longer be here, because I don't  
18 want to be here when the birds are dying or being driven  
19 away by noise, the decibels from the metering station. I  
20 don't want to be here when the bees start dying from toxic  
21 emissions.

CM2-90

22 And I like to think, as a park user, that I am  
23 part of the environment that has created all these plants  
24 that bring the bees. And as you know, the bees nationwide,  
25 worldwide are in crisis, called colony collapse disorder.  
26

CM2-89

As discussed in Section 4.11.1 of the EIS, there would be no significant impacts on air quality as a result of the Rockaway Project, including construction and operation of the M&R facility. Noise impacts are discussed in Section 4.11.2 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM1-140.

CM2-90

Impacts on honey bee colonies at Floyd Bennett Field are discussed in Section 4.8.9 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

56

CM2-90  
(cont'd)

1 And it really is places like Floyd Bennett Garden  
2 Association and other small gardens, if anything, that will  
3 save the bees. This is the place where they thrive. By the  
4 hundreds, by the thousands.

CM2-91

5 It seems that in the case of pipelines and  
6 metering station, leaks and emissions are a given; they're  
7 not something that might happen, they're something that does  
8 happen. In our area, at Floyd Bennett Field, we pride  
9 ourselves on building organic soil. Now when I came here,  
10 my garden was all sand, and now it has maybe at least 18  
11 inches of compost, a lot of which I created from vegetable  
12 scraps, and made my own compost, some of which was made by  
13 other people at the garden; we hauled it in one wheelbarrow  
14 at a time.

15 So we're very proud of our soil. I don't want to  
16 see it polluted by methane and by the other toxic  
17 neurotoxins that are going to come from a gas metering  
18 station.

CM2-92

19 And just a word about the possibility of  
20 accidents. I don't want to see my garden blown up by -- the  
21 possibilities are so varied for an explosion in that  
22 metering station, and there have been so many explosions in  
23 the past five years even, from pipelines and metering  
24 stations.

CM2-93

25 And I keep thinking, "How hard would it be, we're  
26

CM2-91

Comment noted. As discussed in Section 4.11.1 of the EIS, there would be no significant impacts on air quality as a result of the Rockaway Project. Soils within the Community Garden at Floyd Bennett Field would not be affected by the Rockaway Project.

CM2-92

See the responses to comments CM1-23 and CM1-31.

CM2-93

See the response to comment CM1-79.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

57

CM2-93  
(cont'd)

1 right on Flatbush Avenue, we're running on a public avenue,  
2 the hangars that are proposed for the metering station are  
3 right on Flatbush avenue. How hard would it be for someone  
4 who is a terrorist to throw a grenade or a firebomb from  
5 Flatbush Avenue right onto the roof of the station? I think  
6 about that a lot.

CM2-94

7 I just want to close by making a point that has  
8 been made tonight by many people: The National Park Service  
9 was created as a haven from industry. It was not created to  
10 house industry; it was created as a haven from industry  
11 because the company was becoming too industrialized; there  
12 wasn't enough land left, and people with vision and  
13 foresight said "let's put this land aside."

14 And the National Park Service, as far as I'm  
15 concerned, is betraying its trust, Mr. Avrin, and its  
16 purpose by advocating the building of an industrial facility  
17 in our park.

18 Thank you very much.

19 (Applause)

20 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

21 I'm not sure of the last name -- Dave Dou.

22 MR. DOU: Yes, ma'am.

23 MS. HARRIS: Should we go to the next speaker?

24 MR. DOU: We met last night. Nice to see you all  
25 again.

26

CM2-94

Comment noted.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

58

1 I'm Dave Dou from Brooklyn, how 'ya doin'?

2 That last gentleman, Craig Stevens, came in all  
3 the way from Pennsylvania, and has lived on land in his

CM2-95 4 family for a couple of generations. Now I have to tell you,  
5 if that was my land and I was drinking water like this, and  
6 all of a sudden I woke up one day and my water looked like  
7 urine, I would be really mad. I would be beside myself.

8 And so now you have a piece of property you can't  
9 sell, you have water you can't drink. I think if you take a  
10 human being, take him out back and put a bullet in the back  
11 of their head it would be more honorable than to take their  
12 water, their property and everything that they hold dear and  
13 everything that gives us life on this planet.

CM2-96 14 So I think when -- there are people in this room  
15 here tonight who are not getting paid; we're here because we  
16 love this planet. We love each other, we care about what we  
17 have here. And then there's people who are making money.  
18 They're looking at this and saying, "We can go in there and  
19 make a fricking killing. And we don't need these people to  
20 get in our way. We're going to have some hearings and  
21 everything's going to be hunky-dory, we're going to go about  
22 and do our business. And if you don't like it, leave the  
23 country. It's a free country" I mean, I've had it up to  
24 here. I think everybody here has had it up to here.

25 So I think you're pushing us to a dangerous  
26

CM2-95 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6.

CM2-96 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

59

CM2-96  
(cont'd)

1 point, quite honestly, when people go in and do what you  
2 people are doing. I know when somebody goes in and robs  
3 somebody at gunpoint, it's bad enough. But when you go  
4 through this with paperwork, and you have meetings and you  
5 start doing this all under cover, and then you go out and  
6 say it's all about openness and clarity. But there is no  
7 clarity, there is no openness; it's all lies, it's all a  
8 bunch of crap.

CM2-97

9 And you've been doing this for a long time now.  
10 We need to get into renewable energy. We need to save  
11 what's left. Germany is up to 40 percent renewables. And  
12 Jersey, Jersey is No. 2 in our country. New York is falling  
13 so far behind everybody else. Even behind third world  
14 countries. I hate that term, but let's be honest, that's  
15 where we're headed.

16 So if you care about this planet, if you care  
17 about the things that matter, you'll be against this and  
18 you'll be for solar, wind, geothermal. It's been shown, we  
19 can do this.

20 When I was a kid they said 'Some day, some day in  
21 the future, young man, solar power is going to be viable.  
22 But we're not ready for it yet.' It's fifty years later and  
23 they're still saying the same thing. And it's a crock,  
24 okay?

25 So we do have the science to do this, we know how  
26

CM2-97

See the response to comment CM1-24.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		60
CM2-98	1	to do it, we have to have the political will. These people
	2	who are coming from Demik and these places where they're
	3	getting fracking, one neighbor sells their property and
	4	leases it, and other people in the group don't, but they're
	5	all drinking out of the same aquifer, and the water gets
	6	polluted and you're screwed.
	7	So we're all in this together, we all have
	8	everything to lose by not letting, by protecting what we
	9	have still in this planet. So you have to make a choice;
CM2-99	10	are you with us or against us? And if you're going to have
	11	kids some day, what are they going to drink? Are we all
	12	going to live on Poland Spring water? You know, the owner
	13	of Poland Springs, the Nestle Company, says that "water is
	14	not a right, it's a commodity."
CM2-100	15	The same people who brought us the subprime
	16	mortgage are the ones who are bringing us this whole thing
	17	with the fracking. And all they see, I know one of them
	18	intimately, and all they see is money. that's all they
	19	want, that's all they care about. This isn't about energy
	20	independence for this country, it has nothing to do with
	21	that; it's about jobs for Americans -- which should not
	22	really be more important than jobs for a poor kid in India.
	23	Are we all brothers and sisters here? Or are we just
	24	Americans, and we go to the bank -- I have my job, my kids
	25	need braces, I don't care.
	26	

CM2-98 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-6.

CM2-99 Comment noted.

CM2-100 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

61

CM2-100  
(cont'd)

1                   Let's move forward into the future together;  
2                   united we stand, divided we all go down the toilet.

3                   (Applause)

4                   MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

5                   Edie Kantrowitz.

6                   MS. KANTROWITZ: My name is Edie Kantrowitz, I

CM2-101

7                   spoke in Rockaway last night, and now I'm here to address a  
8                   different aspect, which is related to pipeline safety. And  
9                   of course we've already heard quite a bit about the pipeline  
10                  safety; we've heard about the very serious possibilities of  
11                  explosions, fires, terrorist attacks.

12                 But what I want to talk about is the safety issue  
13                 that will be going on even if we don't have one of these  
14                 disasters, but just under normal operations we still have to  
15                 consider the safety issue of radon in our gas supply. And  
16                 as you know, radon is a radioactive gas, it's the number one  
17                 cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers, it's the number two  
18                 cause of lung cancer in this country, and radon gas is found  
19                 inherently in the shale rocks where we get the methane from,  
20                 and so if you're drilling for methane and you get methane  
21                 for your gas, you're automatically getting radon coming  
22                 along with it.

23                 But most of our gas traditionally has come from  
24                 sources in Texas and Louisiana which are much lower in radon  
25                 content than the Marcellus Shales. The Marcellus Shale, by

26

CM2-101           See the response to comment CM1-21.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

62

CM2-101  
(cont'd)

1 some estimates, is as much as seventy times more radioactive  
2 than the gas that we have traditionally been receiving in  
3 this area.

4 And Williams Transco has said that portion, we  
5 don't know exactly what percentage, but we can imagine that  
6 eventually it's supposed to be a very high percentage of the  
7 gas that's going to be supplied through these pipes, is  
8 going to be coming from the Marcellus Shale region. So  
9 it's already going to be much more radioactive. As a matter  
10 of fact, industry people say that they can identify  
11 Marcellus Shale as compared to shale from other regions just  
12 by how radioactive it is.

13 So if radon gas is going to have much more radon,  
14 much more radioactive -- but it's also going to be coming a  
15 much shorter distance, okay. Radon has a half life of 3.8  
16 days. It takes normally four to eight days for the gas to  
17 come up from Texas and Louisiana. The gas that would come  
18 from Marcellus would get to this area in less than a day,  
19 okay.

CM2-102

20 New York City also has some particular  
21 characteristics; in many of its kitchens that may not be  
22 blowing on another area, but kitchens are not well  
23 ventilated, we have old ovens, they have pilot lights; and  
24 so people are really going to be exposed to this radon; it's  
25 a very serious concern.

26

CM2-102 See the response to comment CM1-21.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	63	
CM2-102 (cont'd)	1	Voluntary citizen testing has shown that we
	2	currently still have very low levels of radon in our gas but
	3	we don't want to see those levels go up. As a matter of
	4	fact, when the Rosenthal introduced his bill in the New York
	5	State Assembly which would require utility companies to
	6	guarantee that the levels remain low. But I think that the
	7	best way to guarantee that levels remain low is not to be
CM2-103	8	introducing more natural gas, and as a matter of fact we
	9	should be going as quickly as we can away from natural gas
	10	and into renewables instead; wind energy, solar energy,
	11	geothermal, hydropower.
	12	I know that in the Draft EIS, there are
	13	statements that are basically saying "Well, if we use those
	14	renewable sources, then we won't be meeting the Applicant's
	15	need of having more efficient gas distribution." And I was
CM2-104	16	in Rockaway last night, we had 25 people spoke, I didn't
	17	hear one person get up and say that they were so concerned
	18	about the gas service not being good enough that they would
	19	rather have peoples' water contaminated, that they would
	20	rather have radioactive gas, and that they would rather have
	21	this planet cry for climate change.
	22	Instead, I heard people saying, "Don't use gas,
	23	don't have this pipeline, don't have climate change, don't
	24	contaminate our water, don't contaminate our water, don't
	25	contaminate our oil, don't use fossil fuels. And so I'm
	26	

CM2-103 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-24.

CM2-104 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		64
CM2-104 (cont'd)	1	really hoping that you're listening, because at FERC, you're
	2	the federal government -- the federal government is supposed
	3	to be government by the people, for the people and of the
	4	people. It's not supposed to be government for the gas
	5	companies, okay?
CM2-105	6	I also in closing just want to reiterate some of
	7	the demands that were put out last night to address how the
	8	process and the lack of citizen involvement has been
	9	handled; number one, that the current EIS should be
	10	withdrawn and that it needs to be completely revised based
	11	on the fact that Williams is now saying that they're going
	12	to do their construction work in the summer ran the winter,
	13	which is going to have tremendously different and much more
	14	negative impacts on the marine ecosystems and the other
	15	aspects of this project, okay, that's number one.
CM2-106	16	Number two is that since we're talking about many
	17	users and area residents, represent homeowners and property
	18	owners per se, that there should be notification to everyone
	19	on the Rockaway Peninsula and everyone within five miles of
	20	the metering and regulating station of Floyd Bennett Field,
	21	of exactly what the project is about.
CM2-107	22	And the third point is that there should be more
	23	public hearings, not only two; the public hearings should be
	24	more advertised and the comment period, since we're talking
	25	about a thousand page telephone book that people have to
	26	

CM2-105 See the response to comment CM1-14.

CM2-106 See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM2-107 See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

65

CM2-107  
(cont'd)

1 read and analyze, okay, we're talking about citizens who are  
2 not getting paid to do this at their day job but people who  
3 are doing it, and their evenings and weekends it's their  
4 time, and people need to be able to guide them, to analyze  
5 this information. And so any comment periods, and I know --  
6 comment periods must be longer, they must be at least 90 to  
7 120 days.

8 So this is what we would like, and we hope that  
9 you will listen to us; thank you very much.

10 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

11 (Applause)

12 MS. HARRIS: Matt Gove.

13 MR. GOVE: It's actually Matt Gove, G o v e. And  
14 I'm here from the Surfrider Foundation. Surfrider is made  
15 up of all kinds of beach and ocean users and lovers. A lot  
16 of surfers, but other beach enthusiasts, and we have a  
17 network of volunteer chapters around the country, and one of  
18 those chapters is in New York City, so I'm speaking for the  
19 New York City chapter tonight, they couldn't be here as they  
20 are just volunteers.

CM2-108

21 They're very against this project. They just  
22 found out about it recently and are concerned about it.  
23 They're concerned about locking ourselves into fossil fuels;  
24 this project seems like a lot of the same old thing. As  
25 long as we keep putting big money and big effort into  
26

CM2-108 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-24.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		66
CM2-108 (cont'd)	1 projects like this, we're never going to get onto other 2 types of energy, like wind and solar because we'll have all 3 this money and infrastructure put into natural gas.	
CM2-109	4 The Chapter is also concerned that this sets a 5 dangerous precedent for putting gas infrastructure onto a 6 national recreation area. I'm not sure why that's being 7 allowed, but maybe next we'll expand Flatbush Avenue or 8 maybe we'll expand the airport; not sure. Seems to be a 9 dangerous precedent.	
CM2-110	10 And the last thing is, it's very confusing and 11 hard to follow this project. There's the lateral, there's 12 the Flatbush project and there's the offshore LNG proposal, 13 and it's really hard to tell how they all work together, the 14 offshore project or Ambrose project claims to be bringing 15 natural gas to New York City, but my understanding is where 16 they're tapping into the Transco line, they would be east of 17 this line, which this is the line that's going to New York 18 City. So it's really hard to tell how they all work 19 together and there should be a statement or an explanation 20 of how they work and which can work without the other, and 21 are they all necessary for all the projects to work 22 together?	
CM2-111	23 The New York City Chapter is very against the 24 Port Ambrose Offshore LNG project, and so is also against 25 this project, because it's bringing more natural gas, more 26	

CM2-109 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-34.

CM2-110 See the responses to comments CM1-43 and CM1-56.

CM2-111 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		67
CM2-111 (cont'd)	1	fossil fuels, which New York City doesn't need, really; we
	2	need to move on to some different kinds of power. And
CM2-112	3	they're confused about why we need all this risk, what
	4	everyone else has been talking about; explosions,
	5	environmental degradation, human life risk. Why do we need
	6	all this just for perhaps a few more jobs, perhaps for some
	7	people to make a lot of money.
CM2-113	8	The real driver on the coastline, the real
	9	economic driver is tourism, fishing and recreational use.
	10	It's not bringing in some gas.
	11	I think that's all I wanted to say. Yes.
	12	So no, we don't want this.
	13	MS. HARRIS: Thank you.
	14	(Applause)
	15	MS. HARRIS: Susan Van Dolsen.
	16	MS. VAN DOLSEN: Hi. Luckily you caught me as I
	17	was leaving. My name is Susan Van Dolsen, V a n D o l s e
	18	n.
CM2-114	19	First thing I want to say is, I understand that
	20	the FERC has to determine whether there's a public necessity
	21	for this project. And to me, what is a public necessity?
	22	Having air to breathe, water to drink, a place to raise my
	23	family, and health, good health. To me those are public
	24	necessities.
	25	Methane gas coming through pipelines, that's not
	26	

CM2-112 Section 4.12 of the EIS discusses the localized risks to public safety that could result from a pipeline failure and describes how applicable safety regulations and standards would minimize the potential for these risks. An analysis of the economic impacts on the area as a result of the Projects is provided in Section 4.9.6 of the EIS.

CM2-113 Comment noted.

CM2-114 Comment noted. The purpose and need for the Projects are discussed in Section 1.1 of the EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		68
CM2-114 (cont'd)	1	a public necessity. That's the first thing I want to say.
CM2-115	2	Also, I mentioned, I don't know if you've lived anywhere
	3	near this area, but almost exactly one year ago today,
	4	devastating winds and water damage came here, as you know,
	5	from Sandy. And the damage that was done brought to our
	6	minds what are we doing to our planet? What should we be
	7	doing so that this will never happen again?
CM2-116	8	So I want to address that shale gas
	9	infrastructure such as the Rockaway Lateral is a project
	10	that is part of an energy strategy that perpetuates our
	11	reliance on fossil fuels, which does not serve the public
CM2-117	12	interest in addressing climate change. FERC's mission
	13	should be aligned with the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on
	14	Climate Change, which released a statement on September 27,
	15	2013. Quote: "Human influence on the climate is clear," and
	16	quote.
	17	Hans Stoper, cochair of the working group
	18	stated, quote, "Continuing emissions of greenhouse gases
	19	will cause further warming and changes in all components of
	20	the climate system. Eliminating climate change will require
	21	substantial and sustained reduction of greenhouse gas
	22	emissions." The buildout of shale gas infrastructure
CM2-118	23	including this project, the Rockaway Lateral, requires a
	24	huge economic investment and from renewable energy projects
	25	that will benefit the United States in both the short and
	26	

CM2-115 Comment noted.

CM2-116 Comment noted.

CM2-117 Comment noted. The potential GHG emissions associated with the Projects are discussed in Section 4.11.1.4 of the EIS.

CM2-118 The Projects would be privately funded by the applicant. Also see the response to comment CM1-24.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

		69
CM2-118 (cont'd)	1	long term.
CM2-119	2	Unprecedented storms, as Sandy was, have wreaked
	3	havoc and caused billions of dollars of damage to property
	4	in many parts of our country. If we delay moving toward a
	5	fossil fuel-free energy policy, we are leaving our children
	6	and grandchildren with a huge environmental debt that will
	7	thwart the government debt that many politicians and
	8	citizens consider untenable.
CM2-120	9	The premise of shale gas infrastructure projects
	10	such as this is based on the belief that shale gas is a
	11	clean alternative to carbon based fuels, and that this is a
	12	domestic resource that we should be providing for energy
	13	independence.
	14	These statements are made by the gas and oil
	15	industry in an effort to maintain a demand for their
	16	products. Methane emissions from shale gas and prospective
	17	projects will recognize this is a significant contributor to
	18	climate change. Therefore, methane is 72 times more
	19	powerful than carbon dioxide as a greenhouse gas.
	20	Therefore, shale gas is undermining efforts to
	21	slow climate change. Rather than encouraging a greater
	22	reliance on a fossil fuel that contributes to greenhouse gas
	23	emissions that exacerbate climate change, our country should
	24	commit to a non-fossil fuel energy future which would shift
	25	our reliance on the fuels of the past and toward a clean and
	26	

CM2-119 Comment noted.

CM2-120 Comment noted. Alternative energy sources, including non-fossil fuel alternatives, are discussed in Section 3.2 of the EIS. Emissions resulting from the Projects are discussed in Section 4.11.1.3 of the EIS. GHG emissions are discussed in Section 4.11.1.4 of the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM1-68.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

70

CM2-120 | 1 domestic source of energy which will take us to an energy  
2 independent future. So we would no longer rely on imported  
3 oil or extreme and dangerous energy extraction that depletes  
4 shrinking, precious water resources.

CM2-121 | 5 Dr. Mark Jacobson of Stanford coauthored a study  
6 March of this year that maps out a plan for New York to  
7 generate 100 percent of its energy from wind, water and  
8 sunlight by 2030. I recommend that you all read this and  
9 integrate that into your determination of whether this  
10 project is a public necessity.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

14 Rey Pinder.

15 MS. PINDER: Good evening. My name is Rey  
16 Pinder, I'm from East New York, I'm a member of the East New  
17 York Farms. I also do an Internet radio program in East New  
18 York that's known as the Compost Bin. I'm a master  
19 composter through the auspices of the Brooklyn Botanical  
20 Garden, and this was making me kind of concerned, as many of  
21 the people mentioned here, if you look around, a lot of  
22 people don't look nothing like me here.

CM2-122 | 23 We are in an economic quagmire in our community,  
24 and things such as this only present an economic quagmire.  
25 What are we going to get out of it? A lot of our  
26

CM2-121 See the response to comment CM1-67.

CM2-122 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

71

CM2-122  
(cont'd)

1 communities do not understand the ramifications of what's  
2 happening with this. We are in an era of the forked tongue.  
3 We hear so many soothsayers in our community we don't know  
4 who to believe. We don't know whether we should believe the  
5 government or the gangster.

6 So attending these meetings are enlightening to  
7 me to do my radio program. We're a small Internet radio  
8 program, but I disseminate this type of information. A lot  
9 of people don't realize what's getting ready to happen, and  
10 hydraulic fracking America is the number one sales of  
11 energy, fuels that work. I mean we've got astronomical  
12 unemployment in our community. People don't understand it.  
13 This is kind of -- not that the people are illiterate; it's  
14 just that bread on the table means much more than a pipeline  
15 which is inevitably going to fail because we don't own this  
16 planet; we are all men.

17 So what I'm doing here is trying to find out  
18 what's real and what is surreal. And right now we're in a  
19 very surreal state of mind. And this is -- I don't know  
20 whether Gestalt therapy is needed, but we are in a very  
21 serious, serious situation. And my whole philosophy now is  
22 that one time we were talking about Halloween, showing  
23 Friday the 13th. Now my film for horrifying people now is  
24 Gas Mask. I've now shown that to about four or five people,  
25 and you know, it's no longer an issue of certain

26

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

	72	
CM2-122 (cont'd)	1 communities, it's affecting all of us.	
	2 And as I said, not a lot of us in here, I'm from	
	3 East New York, and this is very important. This place	
	4 should be packed. But right now, a member of the Gateway	
CM2-123	5 National Project, they're making Gateway National Park,	
	6 they're trying to get more community activity coming from	
	7 the community into Gateway National Park, and we're now	
	8 realizing how important open spaces and clean open spaces --	
CM2-124	9 and it's inevitable whether we like it or not, we are all	
	10 men. And those pipelines, like so many people have stated,	
	11 that salt water start rusting things away, what's going to	
	12 happen to us? This is no different than Jamaica or	
	13 Trinidad; this is an island. Brooklyn is an island.	
CM2-125	14 So there are no escape plans here. We've got to	
	15 be real. So this time we thank you, and anyone wants to get	
	16 on our radio station, our Internet, because we need to	
	17 disseminate this information. This is not about black and	
	18 white, this is real. And what's getting ready to happen	
	19 now, we have to look at all avenues. And I feel that I want	
	20 to disseminate the truth, not just information.	
	21 So thank you for your time, and I appreciate it.	
	22 My name is Rey Pinder.	
	23 (Applause)	
	24 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.	
	25 I do not have anyone else signed up to speak.	
	26	

CM2-123 Impacts on the GNRA are discussed in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS.

CM2-124 Comment noted.

CM2-125 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

73

1 Would anyone who hasn't spoken yet wish to speak?

2 Please come up and say your name for the court  
3 reporter.

4 MR. BONSERIO: My name is Joseph Bonserio

5 (spelling). And I'm just me. There's a gentlemen who said

CM2-126 6 the word 'honorable' before. National Park Service was not  
7 honorable. They dealt with these corporations without  
8 saying anything to us. I'm just asking you to be honorable.  
9 Thank you.

10 (Applause)

11 MS. HARRIS: Would anyone else who hasn't had a  
12 chance to speak like to speak?

13 Would you please say your name.

14 MS. HEALY: Hi. My name is Maureen Healy  
15 (spelling).

16 I spoke last night. I spoke about the sudden

CM2-127 17 information that this project might happen in the  
18 summertime, and I asked you to ask that FERC would refuse  
19 Transco's desire to let that happen.

CM2-128 20 Tonight, this is a big project that crosses  
21 different environments. Even though most of it is on public  
22 land, on either land that New York City owns in Flatbush  
23 Avenue, or the federal government land in parts that are in  
24 a way free speech and here in Floyd Bennett Field.

25 And actually, they'll say different things at

26

CM2-126 Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-1.

CM2-127 See the response to comment CM1-14.

CM2-128 A description of the M&R facility is provided in Section 2.1.2 of the EIS. Impacts associated with the M&R facility are discussed throughout the EIS. Also see the response to comment CM2-69.



## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

74

CM2-128  
(cont'd)

1 different places, and here I'm very struck to be in this  
2 place where people are playing and doing things that are  
3 good for their health. And to realize the physical layout  
4 of this place. There are four pairs of hangars in what's  
5 called 'Hangar Row.' 7 and 8 are behind us, 5 and 6 are in  
6 front of us, and we are in this little in between space that  
7 was constructed between two pairs of hangars. There are  
8 another two pairs of hangars off in that direction. And you  
9 can tell from the space in here that they're not very far  
10 away; it's the same spacing.

11 Hangars 1 and 2, the furthest hangars that way,  
12 but not that far away, are going to be used to house a  
13 metering and regulating station. I have tried really hard  
14 to find out what's in a metering and regulating station,  
15 what a metering and regulating station does, and what the  
16 impacts to all these people who are going about their lives  
17 and will continue to do that very close to this metering and  
18 regulating station.

CM2-129

19 What's going to be in it for them? I wish that  
20 National Park Service could help to answer this question,  
21 but for the past few years, National Park Service has had  
22 this big Gateway management plan -- I'm not quite sure of  
23 the words -- but this big campaign to supposedly let the  
24 public in and let the public contribute, let the public hear  
25 what National Park Service wanted to do -- excuse me, I know  
26

CM2-129

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-1. The planning efforts of the NPS for the GNRA are outside the scope of this EIS.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

75

CM2-129  
(confd)

1 this isn't FERC stuff, but it's all connected to this  
2 project, okay? And it's very much connected to what the  
3 people in this room and the people who are in this building  
4 and don't even know what's going on upstairs here, it's what  
5 they deserve to know; it's connected to that.

6 So for the last few years, National Park Service  
7 has been going through this campaign of sharing their  
8 thinking and their plans about what should happen here at  
9 Gateway with the public; and asking over and over again for  
10 the public's contribution and public's thoughts. And  
11 National Park Service, through all that time, when they were  
12 also going through talks about this project, the same four  
13 years that Karen talked about, since 2009, National Park  
14 Service completely hid the information that Hangars 1 and 2  
15 would be used to house a natural gas metering and regulating  
16 station, an industrial use of this federal park land that's  
17 supposed to be set aside, that 40 years ago people had the  
18 wisdom to set this aside for natural, ecological and  
19 recreational uses.

20 What a sorry shame that the public wasn't let in

CM2-130

21 on this. So now this is in FERC's hands, and when you speak  
22 at the beginning, you'd say the Draft Environmental Impact  
23 Statement was written to -- to help inform the public about  
24 the impact of the construction and the operation of this  
25 project.

26

CM2-130 See the response to comment CM2-128.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

76

CM2-130  
(cont'd)

1                   There is not anything in the Draft Environmental  
2                   Impact Statement that talks about the impacts from the  
3                   regular operation of the metering and regulating station.  
4                   Where can the public turn?

5                   I demand that you make this right. Even though I  
6                   can't find information from the National Park Service or  
7                   FERC, I know there's something to know here. The EPA did a  
8                   study about, they mention leakage from the entire transport,  
9                   natural gas transport system. And metering and regulating  
10                  stations are the big leaker in the system. I want to know  
11                  more. And I turn to FERC and I demand that you write that  
12                  chapter. That you write the chapter and you disseminate to  
13                  the public that will be living under this thing, growing  
14                  their food in the community, huge community garden that is  
15                  200 feet away from that metering and regulating station, 200  
16                  feet away from Hangar 1.

CM2-131

17                  I'm an activist. We spent some time out on  
18                  Flatbush Avenue when the National Grid pipe was being  
19                  installed. On Saturday, on Sunday, you should see the bands  
20                  of families bringing their kids down to this place.

21                  It just seems like such a big disconnect to be  
22                  doing this in the first place, to have this potentially  
23                  dangerous, probably toxic, industrial facility so close to  
24                  where people are coming to play and have fun and be healthy.

25                  People are bringing their children there. But then to  
26

CM2-131

Impacts on the GNRA are discussed in Section 4.8.7 of the EIS. The Projects would be designed, constructed, and operated in compliance with, or to exceed, all applicable federal and state regulations, which have been established to protect public health and safety. Section 4.12 of the EIS discusses the localized risks to public safety that could result from a pipeline failure and describes how applicable safety regulations and standards would minimize the potential for these risks.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

77

CM2-131  
(cont'd)

1 withhold that information from the public, it's doubly  
2 egregious, and I ask you to make that -- I ask FERC to make  
3 that right. Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

6 Would you please say your name for the record.

7 MS. LEE: My name is Sandra Lee, L e e.

8 Right here, and even in her laptop, we have the  
9 world's knowledge. We also have the world's misinformation.  
10 And so it's so much in our immediate self, the equation is  
11 what are we going to do with all this knowledge? I mean,  
12 how are we going to implement that? We are more intelligent  
13 than any other generation.

14 We're asking ourselves to dig deep, to know that  
15 our experience, our need for another, their future, that we  
16 utilize our wisdom. Together we can find a solution.  
17 Together we can live a better life.

18 And that we can also create jobs through it.  
19 Profit need not be so astronomical. It would be decent to  
20 live long. We won't be predator upon each other. But it's  
21 bad that fracking has to be tainted with the thought that  
22 this is the permission to poison ourselves, to poison our  
23 community. Not just like chemicals alone, but the fight we  
24 have here, we're wasting time! We're in recession. We  
25 should be solutionary. Shame on us. We got everything God  
26

CM2-132

CM2-132 See the response to comment CM1-6.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

78

CM2-132  
(cont'd)

1 would love us to have and it equates to what? Poisoning  
2 yourself? Manipulating knowledge for nothing but self-  
3 gratification for a few. Sad.

4 It might not be energy, but bottom line is  
5 humanity. We come to be born for what? We are brothers and  
6 sisters. Let's be it. There are going to be hard times; we  
7 might not have money. We have intent, we can work together.

8 It's good, we have Obamacare, affordable health  
9 care, but when we're all poisoned there's no affordable  
10 health care at all. And it's bad that -- I mean, okay, we  
11 die. What are we going to celebrate? Sending a birthday  
12 card to your office every year to say 'Hi, I'm alive. But  
13 I'm in pain.' That's not the way to go.

14 Use wisdom. We will help you. We're here.  
15 We'll figure it out together. Even if you build small  
16 projects and then we can elaborate on it. You know, don't -

CM2-133

17 - yes, we pay your bill, but I think you guys owe us  
18 something. Honesty. And for -- yes, Floyd Bennett Field,  
19 it's a big field. There's a lot of expenses, of course.  
20 But you know what? Ask the people, how can we make this a  
21 haven, a tourist place, How can we make money? There are  
22 so many poor people in the Rockaways, there are so many  
23 complaints about all these people who are in SRCs, they're  
24 begging on the street, they might not be the best people to  
25 have here, to help this place flourish, but there is

26

CM2-133      Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

79

CM2-133  
(cont'd)

1 something. We just have to dig deeper. Even the most  
2 innocent, the most non-intelligent person can tell you from  
3 your face, something. Can shock you.

CM2-134

4 We need to clean all these waters. We can build  
5 fisheries, we can ask the young people to come in,  
6 volunteer, learn, with these fisheries or a nursery for  
7 fishes, we can let out the fish into the sea. We can fish,  
8 survive on it. I don't know we can make money, but we can  
9 figure it out. Not just only that.

10 You have garden. Two persons in particular have  
11 this big boat, they're fighting for their life. We need to  
12 eat to a survival. Let them try gardening, landscaping.  
13 That's more worthwhile. You can't eat petroleum; yes, it's  
14 in everything, I know. Even the hair good products. We  
15 need to decide, take ourselves off of this - cancers, maybe  
16 like cancers, but it's an addiction like cocaine. We can  
17 even kill abroad for this. You know, why we are -- all  
18 around the world. For gas, they say. We shouldn't be doing  
19 that. Everybody depends on us as the world's police. We  
20 were. Now it's no longer that way, you know.

21 People run everywhere around the world. Here,  
22 for safety. But we have been () to them. A little too much.  
23 I know in some cases there's the dynamics, but we hope that  
24 we don't injure people so much.

25 And you can also have people come in, looking for  
26

CM2-134 Comment noted.

## CM2 – Public Comment Meeting in Brooklyn, New York (cont'd)

80

CM2-134  
(cont'd)

1 places to stage or have filming; artists who need little  
2 rooms to do things, there are so many. You can make money,  
3 you don't have to take the STEM. I'm sorry, you know, we  
4 don't all make the best decisions. But somehow we need to  
5 stand together, okay?

6 MS. HARRIS: Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MS. HARRIS: I really appreciate each of you  
9 coming out tonight. We have heard your concerns and I will  
10 definitely take them back to Washington. I really  
11 appreciate it.

12 This meeting is adjourned.

13 (Whereupon, at 3:15 p.m., the public comment  
14 meeting adjourned.)

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

## FEDERAL AGENCIES

### FA1 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Regulatory Branch

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW YORK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10278-0090

NOV 07 2013

Subject: Permit Application Number NAN-2012-00582-EHA  
by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) for the Rockaway  
Delivery Lateral

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC  
Attn: Roberta Zwier  
2800 Post Oak Boulevard, L-17  
Houston, Texas 77056

Dear Ms. Zwier:

Correspondence expressing concern regarding the Public Notice issued for your proposal has been received by this office. A copy of this letter is enclosed (attachment 1). Additionally, comments from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District Plan Formulation Branch and Civil Resources Branch follow:

FA1-1

Corps studies underway in the vicinity of the proposed pipeline include:

a. *Atlantic Coast of New York City from East Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay, NY*  
This study was authorized to determine the feasibility of improvements for beach erosion control, hurricane protection and environmental improvements in Jamaica Bay including environmentally sensitive areas along Plumb Beach, Brooklyn, NY. This study's initial recommendations were for environmental restoration at eight sites within Jamaica Bay or its tributaries. None of these sites would be impacted by the proposed Lateral connector but one site, at Dead Horse Point is in proximity to the above ground meter and regulating facility in the southern most historical hangar at Floyd Bennett Field (attachment 2). The meter facility itself is on the opposite side of Flatbush Avenue and would not impact the site. As long as the pipeline to/from the facility is buried under Flatbush Avenue and not blocking access to the site no impacts would be expected.

It should be noted that this study has been included in the Corps' interim 2 report under the Sandy Relief Act. As such its recommendations are being reexamined with respect to addressing coastal resiliency and sustainability while providing coastal storm damage reduction benefits. To date no alternatives have been proposed in proximity to the lateral connector. However, the Transco is advised to maintain close coordination with the ongoing study to determine if any future recommendations may impact your project, and to contact the District immediately if you foresee a possible impact as the study moves toward completion.

b. *East Rockaway Inlet to Rockaway Inlet (Rockaway Beach)*  
This reformulation study was authorized to reexamine recommendations for coastal storm protection along the Atlantic Ocean at Rockaway Beach. Alternatives under consideration do not extend as far west as the lateral connector but it too has been included in the Corps' interim 2

FA1-1

Comment noted.



## FA1 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FAI-1  
(cont'd)

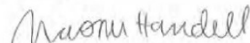
report under the Sandy Relief Act. As such its recommendations are also being reexamined with respect to addressing coastal resiliency and sustainability of storm damage reduction benefits. Under the reexamination the study area does extend to the location at which the lateral connector is proposing to come on shore. To date no shore-based alternatives this far west along the ocean beach has been identified.

Off shore borrow sites will serve as the source of the sand for beach placement. The pits, which could be as deep as 20 feet below the ocean surface, could be impacted by subsurface drilling. The sites currently proposed for use include a former offshore site approximately in line with the Cross Bay Blvd Bridge (attachment 3) and two new sites in a similar alignment but further offshore (attachment 4). None of these sites would be affected by the proposed lateral connector; however, as with the study above, the Transco is advised to maintain close coordination with the ongoing study to determine if any future recommendations may impact your project, and to contact the District immediately if you foresee a possible impact.

- ☐ These letters do not contain significant adverse comments and are for your information only. No response is required.
- ☒ These letters/comments contain specific questions and recommendations; please supply this office with a response to these questions/recommendations within the next 20 days.
- ☐ You may voluntarily elect to contact objectors to resolve their objections to your proposal.



Copies of this letter are being transmitted to Sara Mochrie, Ecology and Environment, and Kara Harris, FERC. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (917) 790-8523.

Sincerely,

  
Naomi Handell  
Project Manager  
Eastern Section

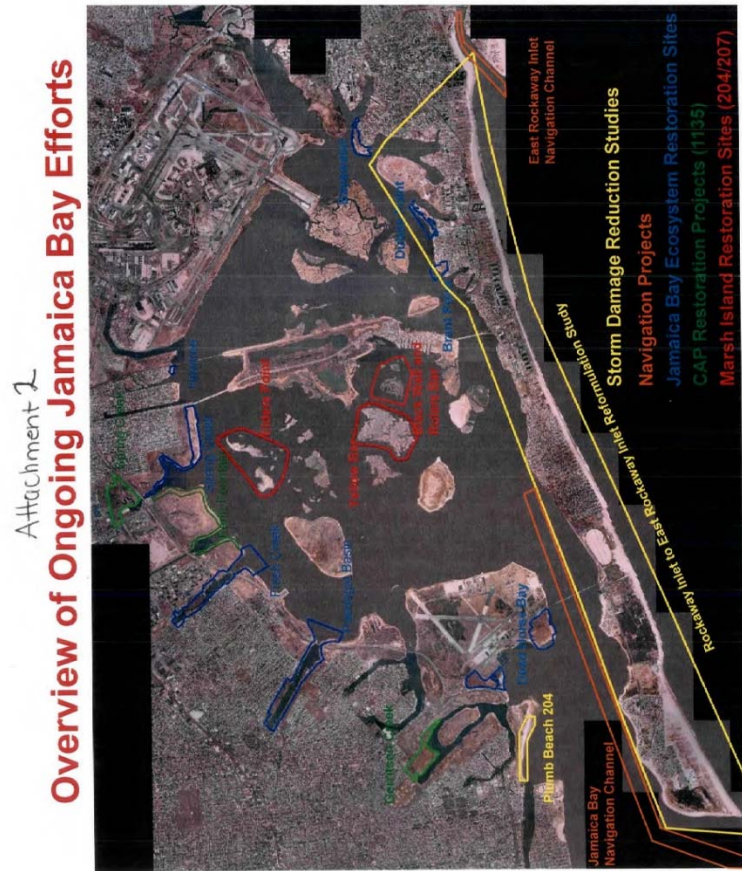
Enclosures

**FA1 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)**

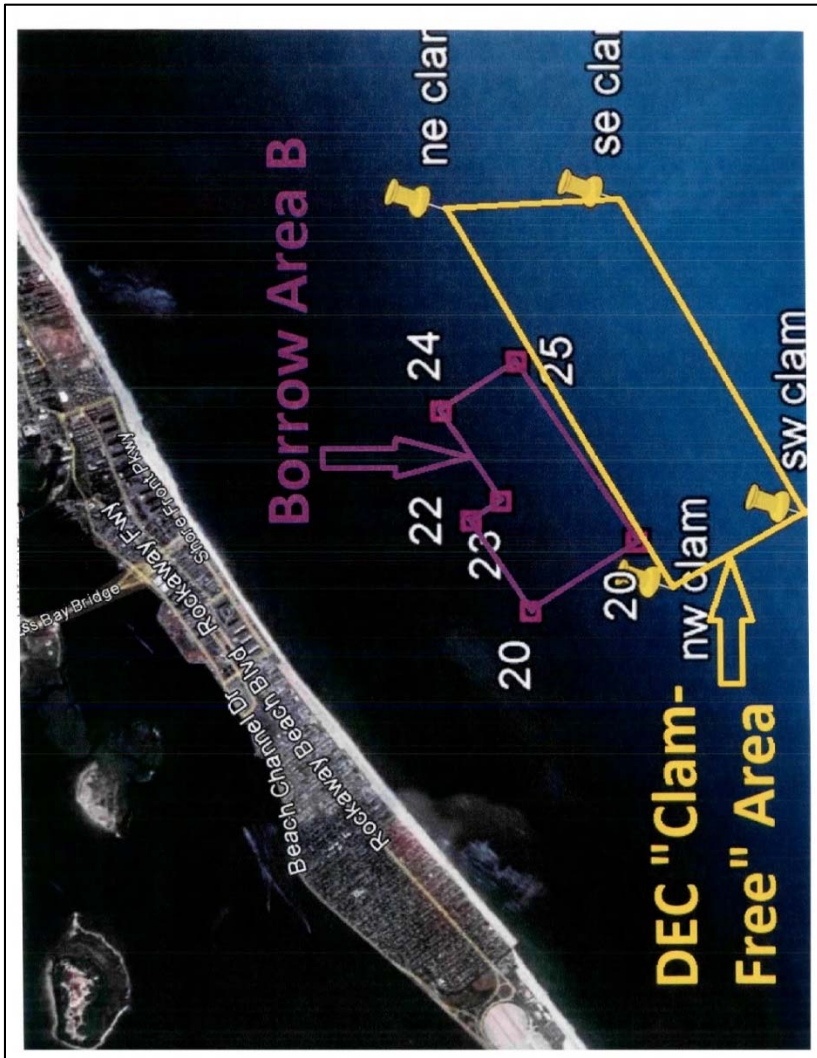
		<i>Attachment 1</i>	
		<p>Commander United States Coast Guard Sector New York</p> <p>212 Coast Guard Drive Staten Island, NY 10305 Staff Symbol: (spw) Phone: (718) 354-2353 Fax: (718) 354-4190</p> <p>16670 Nov 3, 2013</p>	
<p>U. S. Army Corps of Engineers New York District Jacob K. Javitz Federal Bldg New York, NY 10278-0090 Attn: Regulatory Branch</p>			
<p>Gentlemen:</p>			
FA1-2	<p>We have reviewed Public Notice NAN-2012-00582-EHA regarding the Transcontinental Rockaway Lateral Gas Pipeline. We request that any permit you issue require the permittee to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Submit the project construction details to the First Coast Guard District for publication in the Local Notice to Mariners before starting operations. This information must be e-mailed to <a href="mailto:LNM@d1.uscg.mil">LNM@d1.uscg.mil</a> or faxed to (617) 223.8291 a minimum of fourteen days before starting operations.</li><li>2. Notify the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the project completion and specifications so they may initiate the appropriate chart and Coast Pilot corrections. This must be submitted online at <a href="http://ocsdta.ned.noaa.gov/drs/discrepancy.aspx">http://ocsdta.ned.noaa.gov/drs/discrepancy.aspx</a>.</li></ol> <p>If you have any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact Mr. Jeff Yunker at (718) 354-4195.</p> <p>Sincerely,  D. D. LEOCE Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Chief, Waterways Management Division By direction</p> <p>Encl (1): First Coast Guard District Local Notice to Mariners form</p> <p>Copy: CCGDONE (dpw/dpw-3)</p>		

FA1-2

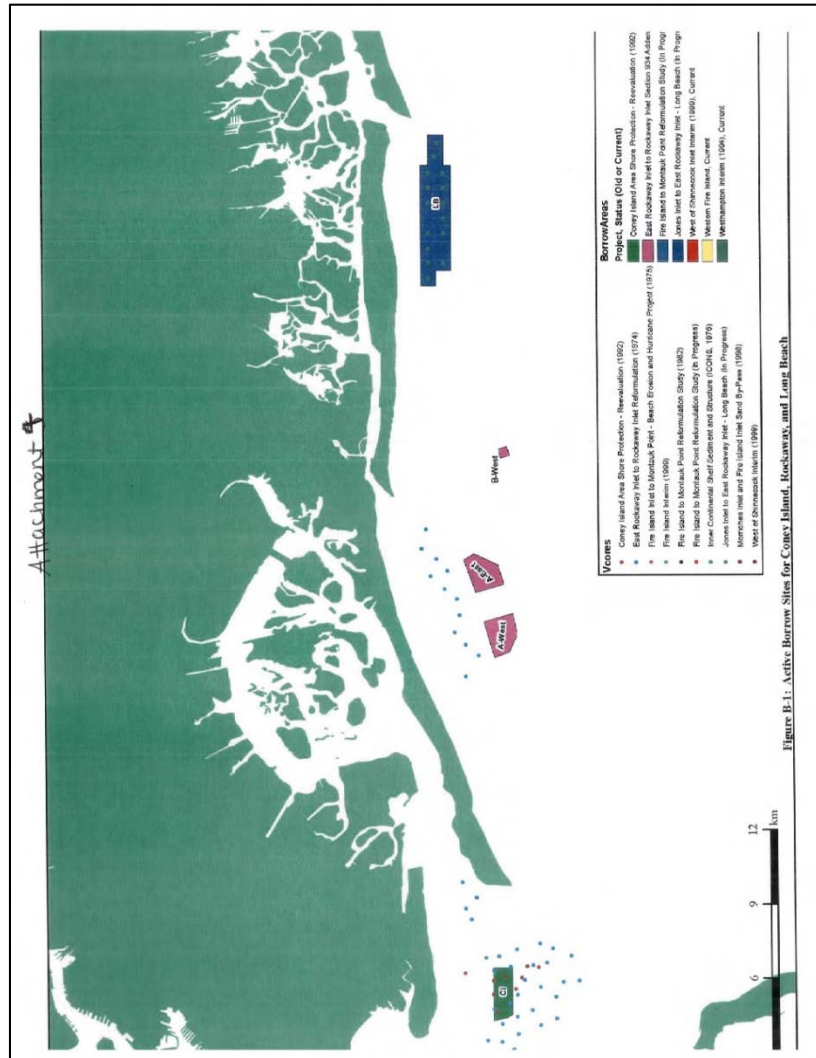
Comment noted. As discussed in Sections 4.8.4.1 and 4.8.4.2 of the EIS, Transco would submit a Special Notice to Mariners to the U.S. Coast Guard for offshore construction activities.



**FA1 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)**



**FA1 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)**



## FA2 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW YORK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING  
26 FEDERAL PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278-0090

NOV 19 2013

SUBJECT: Permit Application Number NAN-2012-00582-EHA  
Comments on the Transcontinental (Transco) Gas Pipe Line Company  
Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Docket Nos. CP13-36-000, CP13-132-000, and PF09-8-000

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20426

Dear Secretary Bose:

The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is serving as one of the cooperating agencies involved in the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). This letter is in response to FERC's Draft Environmental Impact Statement dated October 2013. Transco has proposed the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project in order to provide additional natural gas service to National Grid's system in the Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Transco proposes to construct approximately 3.20 miles of 26-inch diameter pipeline from a proposed offshore interconnect with Transco's existing Lower New York Bay Extension, in the Atlantic Ocean, near Lower New York Bay, to a delivery point onshore into the National Grid pipeline system on the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens County, New York.

Our comments on the FERC DEIS are as follows:

- FA2-1 Text throughout the document does not clearly state that the Corps will require 4 feet of cover over the top of the proposed pipeline and anode cable with return of the seabed to pre-construction contours. Additionally, the FEIS must contain or be contingent upon written approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries Service (NOAA-FS) for compliance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act; NOAA-FS approval for compliance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; and the New York State Historic Preservation Office and any applicable Tribal Historic Preservation Office for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- FA2-2

FA2-1

The text of the EIS has been modified to clarify that Transco would be required to provide 4 feet of cover over the pipeline and a cathodic protection system, and to restore the seabed to ambient conditions.

FA2-2

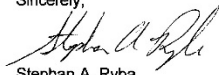
Staff recommendations have been updated, as appropriate.

**FA2 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)**

SUBJECT: Permit Application Number NAN-2012-00582-EHA  
Comments on the Transcontinental (Transco) Gas Pipe Line Company  
Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
Docket Nos. CP13-36-000, CP13-132-000, and PF09-8-000

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the October 2013 Draft  
Environmental Impact Statement. If you have any questions or need additional  
information, please contact Naomi Handell at (917) 790-8523.

Sincerely,



Stephan A. Ryba  
Chief, Eastern Section

cc: Roberta Zwier, Roberta.zwier@williams.com  
Kara Harris, FERC, 888 First St, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426



## FA3 – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 2  
290 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

NOV 19 2013

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First St., N.E.  
Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Docket Nos. CP13-36-000, CP13-132-000 and PF09-8-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project and Northeast Connector Project (CEQ # 20130302). The Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company (Transco) is proposing two projects to enhance reliability of National Grid's natural gas distribution system in New York City. The Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project, located in Queens, New York, would consist of a 26-inch-diameter natural gas pipeline and associated facilities, a metering and regulating facility and associated pipeline and equipment. The new pipeline would extend approximately 3.2 miles from an offshore interconnect with Transco's existing Lower New York Bay Lateral to an onshore delivery point on the Rockaway Peninsula. The Northeast Connector Project would add incremental compression to Transco's existing Compressor Station 195 in York County, Pennsylvania; Compressor Station 205 in Mercer County, New Jersey; and Compressor Station 207 in Middlesex County, New Jersey. Transco would replace three existing natural gas-fired reciprocating engines with two new electric motor drives at Compressor Station 195, and uprate existing electric-driven motors at Compressor Stations 205 and 207. These modifications would occur on lands owned by Transco within the existing compressor station sites. The modifications to the compressor stations would result in the net addition of 16,940 horsepower of compression on Transco's existing system. EPA's review was conducted in accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

FA3-1 EPA commends the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on its efforts to work with all the cooperating agencies during the preparation of the DEIS. While concurring with the findings of the FERC staff as enumerated in Section 5.2 of the DEIS, EPA is concerned that the General Conformity applicability analysis did not include a detailed analysis of equipment, marine engines, emissions factors and running times that were used to estimate total construction emissions. This information should be included in the final environmental impact statement.

FA3-2 Also, on page 4-75, second paragraph, first sentence, the word "loggerheads" should be "leatherbacks".

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>  
Recycled/Recyclable • Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on Recycled Paper (Minimum 50% Postconsumer content)

FA3-1 Back up data for the General Conformity Analysis is provided in Appendix Q.

FA3-2 The text of has been updated in the final EIS.



**FA3 – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 (cont'd)**

FA3-3 | EPA has rated the DEIS and the proposed alternative as Lack of Objections – Adequate (LO – 1) as our review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal (see enclosed rating sheet). If you have any questions regarding this review or our comments, please contact Lingard Knutson of my staff at (212) 637-3747.

Sincerely yours,

  
Judy Ann Mitchell, Chief  
Sustainability and Multimedia Programs Branch

Enclosure

FA3-3

Comment noted.

## FA3 – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 (cont'd)

### SUMMARY OF RATING DEFINITIONS AND FOLLOW-UP ACTION Environmental Impact of the Action

#### LO-Lack of Objections

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

#### EC-Environmental Concerns

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

#### EO-Environmental Objections

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that must be avoided to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

#### EU-Environmentally Unsatisfactory

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality, public health or welfare. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potential unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommend for referral to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ).

### Adequacy of the Impact Statement

#### Category 1-Adequate

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

#### Category 2-Insufficient Information

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.



#### Category 3-Inadequate

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analyzed in the draft EIS, which should be analyzed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analysis, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

\*From: EPA Manual 1640, "Policy and Procedures for the Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment."

## FA4 – U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance

20131205-5101 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/5/2013 1:17:52 PM



United States Department of the Interior  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance  
15 State Street – Suite 400  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109-3572

December 5, 2013

9043.1  
ER 13/659

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426


**RE: COMMENTS**  
**Draft Environmental Impact Statement**  
**Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project, FERC No. CP13-36-000**  
**Northeast Connector Project, FERC No. CP13-132-000**  
**New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey**

Dear Ms. Bose:

FA4-1 The U.S. Department of the Interior (Department) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Proposed Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects. The applicant, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company (Transco), requests authorization to expand its natural gas pipeline system in New York for the Rockaway Project. For the Northeast Connector Project, Transco proposes to modify existing compressor station facilities along its existing pipeline system in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Department has no comment on the DEIS.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this DEIS. Please contact me at (617) 223-8565 if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Andrew L. Raddant  
Regional Environmental Officer

FA4-1

Comment noted.

**FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District**



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NEW YORK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING  
26 FEDERAL PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10278-0080

DEC 03 2013

Regulatory Branch

Subject: Permit Application Number NAN-2012-00582-EHA  
by Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC (Transco) for the  
Rockaway Delivery Lateral

Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC  
Attn: Roberta Zwier  
2800 Post Oak Boulevard, L-17  
Houston, Texas 77056

Dear Ms. Zwier:

FA5-1 Correspondence expressing concern regarding the Public Notice issued for your proposal has been received by this office. Copies of these letters are enclosed.

- [ ] These letters do not contain significant adverse comments and are for your information only. No response is required.
- [x] These letters contain specific questions and recommendations; please supply this office with a response to these questions/recommendations within the next 20 days.
- [x] You may voluntarily elect to contact objectors to resolve their objections to your proposal.

Copies of this letter are being transmitted to Sara Mochrie, Ecology and Environment, and Kara Harris, FERC. If you have any questions, please contact the undersigned at (917) 790-8523.




Sincerely,

*Naomi Handell*  
Naomi Handell  
Project Manager  
Eastern Section

Enclosures: NYSOPRHP letter dated November 5, 2013, Gay H. Snyder letter dated November 14, 2013, Natural Resources Protective Association letter dated November 24, 2013

FA5-1 Comment noted.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

 <b>New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation</b> Division for Historic Preservation P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189 518-237-8643	November 05, 2013	<b>Andrew M. Cuomo</b> Governor <b>Rose Harvey</b> Commissioner
Naomi J. Handell U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacob K. Javits Federal Building 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1937 New York, New York 10278-0090	<b>RECEIVED BY REGULATORY</b> <b>NOV 15 2013</b> <b>NY DIST. CORPS OF ENGINEERS</b>	
Re: CORPS PERMITS Gas pipeline - Jacob Riis Park NAN-2012-00582-EHA Jacob Riis Park and Floyd Bennett Field, King & Queens County 13PR05011		
Dear Ms. Handell:		
Thank you for requesting the comments of the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). We have reviewed the submitted materials in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. These comments are those of the SHPO and relate only to Historic resources.		
FA5-2	Our architectural historian for Kings and Queens County notes that the project site is located within the National Register listed Jacob Riis Park and adjacent to the National Register listed Floyd Bennett Field and National Register eligible Marine Parkway Bridge. We request the following additional information to continue our review:	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Please provide site plans and site photos specific to Jacob Riis Park, noting pipe exiting locations and any above ground structures associated with the project.</li><li>2. Please provide construction plans and/or details as necessary so we may understand how the project will impact the historic resources at Jacob Riis Park.</li><li>3. Please see the attached archaeological resources evaluation comments.</li></ol>	
	If you have any questions, I can be reached at (518) 237-8643, ext. 3260 or <a href="mailto:eric.kuchar@parks.ny.gov">eric.kuchar@parks.ny.gov</a> . Please refer to the SHPO Project Review (PR) number in any future correspondences regarding this project.	
	Sincerely,  Eric N. Kuchar Historic Preservation Technical Specialist	
An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Agency  printed on recycled paper <a href="http://www.nysparks.com">www.nysparks.com</a>		

FA5-2

Transco previously provided this information to the New York State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). See Section 4.10.1 of the EIS.

**FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)**

NYSOPRHP  
P2

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES  
EVALUATION COMMENTS**

CORPS PERMITS  
Jacob Riis Park Gas Pipeline  
(NAN-2012-00582-EHA)  
Borough of Brooklyn, Kings County  
Borough of Queens, Queens County  
13PR05011  
5 November 2013

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the information submitted for this project. Our review has been in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and relevant implementing regulations.

FA5-3 SHPO requests the submission of additional information regarding the potential presence of archaeological resources in the project's Area of Potential Effects (APE). Please submit a Phase IA-level report which summarizes information on known sites in or near the APE, assesses the potential for as yet undiscovered sites, and reports on available information about shipwrecks and other underwater cultural features.

If you have questions about these comments  
please call Philip Perazio at 518-237-8643 x3276 or [philip.perazio@parks.ny.gov](mailto:philip.perazio@parks.ny.gov)  
PLEASE BE SURE TO REFER TO THE PROJECT NUMBER NOTED ABOVE.

FA5-3

Transco previously provided this information to the New York SHPO. See Section 4.10.1 of the EIS.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

Gay H. Snyder  
Attorney at Law  
2920 Avenue R #250  
Brooklyn, NY 11229  
Phone: (718) 339-5491  
E mail: [gaysnyderesq@aol.com](mailto:gaysnyderesq@aol.com)

RECEIVED BY REGULATORY

NOV 21 2013

NY DIST. CORPS OF ENGINEERS

November 14, 2013

US Army Corps of Engineers  
New York District  
Jacob K. Javits Federal Building  
New York, NY 10278  
Attention: Ms. Jodi M. McDonald, Chief, Regulatory Branch

Re: Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC Rockaway Delivery  
Lateral Project  
Public Notice No.: NAN 2012 00582 EHA

Dear Chief McDonald:

I am an intervenor before FERC opposing the Rockaway Lateral Project. I have already submitted written and verbal comments. I now submit remarks with regard to your public notice dated October 4, 2013. I reserve the right to rely upon and incorporate by reference into my remarks all other opposing comments.

FA5-4 | Given the complexity of the Rockaway Lateral Delivery Project, I request that the comment period be extended 90 days and that the Army Corps of Engineers schedule public hearings on this matter.

FA5-5 | I object to and oppose the entire project, but my remarks will focus mostly on the gas line and metering and regulating station planned to be built in historic hangars known as Hangars 1 and 2 at Floyd Bennett Field. I am a park user and visit Floyd Bennett Field frequently.

Page 1 of 8

FA5-4 | The FERC has no role in assessing the timing of the comment period for Transco's application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). See the response to comment CM1-1.

FA5-5 | See the response to comment CM1-33. Impacts on the marine environment and wildlife are discussed in Sections 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-5  
(cont'd)

Floyd Bennett Field is a very busy national park, and the presence of a gas line and metering station in Floyd Bennett Field would threaten and compromise vital community resources including but not limited to bicycle riding, camping, hiking, nature watching and a community garden. Construction under the nearby waterways and beaches such as Jacob Riis Park would not only threaten the marine environment and wildlife, it would also interfere with community resources such as boating, swimming and fishing.

FA5-6

Gateway National Park is located in the largest city in the United States. It serves a densely populated area which is in great need of green spaces. This matter appears to be precedent setting i.e. if approved, this project would be the adaptive reuse of historic structures within the context of the national recreation area for a private industrial hazardous use wholly outside of the park's purpose and values. This use is completely incompatible with current park uses, NPS laws and policy (both park service wide and park specific) and Gateway NRA programs and General Management plan.

The public would no longer be able to enjoy or use the alienated premises. Under Transco's proposal, the outside of the hangars would be "freshened up," but the inside would be off limits to the public because it would house an industrial facility. I urge FERC to soundly reject this Trojan Horse.

FA5-7

The proposal to build a metering station in these hangars is so bizarre, Congress had to pass a law, HR 2606, now called the New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act, to authorize it. For all of the reasons set forth by Ms. Barbara Pearson, Ms. Karen Orlando and Mr. Joe Nerone, this proposed metering station still fails to comply with the above referenced Act and further fails to comply with other statutes and regulations. Using this property for a metering station is not an activity consistent with the purposes of a recreational park and the proposed pipeline and metering station would lessen the purpose and value of the premises.

As one can see from the legislative history of the New York City Natural Gas Supply Enhancement Act, the National Park Service has, unfortunately, been cheerleading the project because it believes it would benefit financially if the gas metering station is approved. The public was never given an opportunity to participate in the secretive and rushed Congressional hearings. This is precisely why the public

FA5-8

Page 2 of 8

FA5-6 See the response to comment CM1-34.

FA5-7 See the responses to comments CM1-34 and CM1-44.

FA5-8 See the response to comment CM1-12.



## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-8  
(cont'd)

needs an entity such as FERC to step in, review matters objectively and deny Transco's petition.

FA5-9

In my opinion, the National Park Service knows or should know that this proposed metering station is NOT a proper use of these historic buildings in Floyd Bennett Field. This is demonstrated by e mails I personally exchanged with the NPS recently.

On October 25, 2013, I received an unsolicited e mail from Daphne Yun, Public Affairs Specialist for the NPS. The NPS is seeking submissions from the public for the use of vacant buildings at Fort Hancock. Fort Hancock is part of Gateway National Park as is Jamaica Bay Wild life Refuge and Floyd Bennett Field. Here is the e mail from Ms. Yun:

From: Yun, Daphne <daphne\_yun@nps.gov>

To: undisclosed-recipients;

Subject: 2013 RFEI at Fort Hancock: Honor History, Invest in its Future

Date: Fri, Oct 25, 2013 8:22 am

Attachments: RFEIsn-rev23Oct2013-2\_(final)\_1).pdf (1196K), RFEIsn-rev23Oct2013\_(final).pdf (431K)

Dear Friend

The National Park Service, with the advice of the Fort Hancock 21st Century Advisory Committee, is seeking interested parties to redevelop historic structures in the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area.

Attached please find the Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI) that invites submissions of concepts that would transform the use of historic buildings located within Sandy Hook's Fort Hancock Historic District. Adaptive reuse of historic buildings is the first big step in saving Fort Hancock's historic landscape.

The RFEI was released on Tuesday, October 22, 2013. If you are someone you know is interested in submitting a proposal, please see the attached documents or visit [www.forthancock21stcentury.org](http://www.forthancock21stcentury.org). All responses must comply with the submission requirements contained in the RFEI brochure.

Site visits for interested parties begin at 10 AM on Wednesday, November 6 and Thursday, November 14.

Questions can be submitted to [Forthancock21stcentury@yahoo.com](mailto:Forthancock21stcentury@yahoo.com) until Monday, December 9.

Final submission are due no later than 5:00 PM Monday, December 16.

Kind Regards,

Daphne Yun

Public Affairs Specialist

Gateway National Recreation Area

718-354-4602

917-282-9393

FA5-9

See the response to comment IND32-5.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-9  
(cont'd)

I responded to her with the following e mail on October 26, 2013:

From: Gay Snyder [gaysnydersq@aol.com](mailto:gaysnydersq@aol.com)

To: daphne\_yun <[daphne\\_yun@nps.gov](mailto:daphne_yun@nps.gov)>

Subject: Re: 2013 RFEI at Fort Hancock: Honor History, Invest in its Future

Date: Sat, Oct 26, 2013 7:23 am

Thanks for your e mail.

Could you please give me some examples of proper adaptive reuses in a national park?

Gay Snyder

[gaysnydersq@aol.com](mailto:gaysnydersq@aol.com)

On October 29, 2013 I received the following response from John Warren of the NPS:

Tue, Oct 29, 2013 11:45 am

**Adaptive reuse of historic structures in National Parks**

From **Warren, John** [john\\_warren@nps.gov](mailto:john_warren@nps.gov) no details

To [gaysnydersq@aol.com](mailto:gaysnydersq@aol.com)

Dear Gay,

Your email was forwarded to me. I attach a few links concerning adaptive reuse of historic structures in National Parks for you.

I don't know your familiarity with the subject, so here's the "broad brush" version.

National parks exist to preserve areas for the American people. Many national parks, including ours, have more historic structures than we can realistically restore or maintain. One way to preserve the buildings, as well as the historic landscape, is to lease them for "adaptive" reuse. Leases can be awarded to commercial or non-profit organizations. National parks have been home to commercial enterprises, especially hotels, since before the National Park Service was founded in 1916.

Page 4 of 8

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-9  
(cont'd)

However, not all uses would be approved. The National Park Service sets parameters for what we are willing to accept in a proposal from an interested party. In our own Request for Expressions of Interest (RFEI), Gateway's first guideline is this: "Proposals should preserve the peace and serenity of Sandy Hook and not adversely effect the Historic District." Further guidelines can be found in both our RFEI booklet and tear sheet, which are posted here: <http://www.forthancock21stcentury.org/rfei>

Below are some links concerning other RFEIs in national parks. This one links to brief news stories about other RFEIs issued by the agency nationwide. As you can see, RFEIs are used across the country in many different parks with different resources. Some of these RFEIs are a better match to the historic resources found at Gateway's Sandy Hook Unit than others: <http://concessions.nps.gov/news.htm>

Two RFEI success stories can be found in the San Francisco Bay area. The Presidio had several beautiful military-era buildings which are now preserved by lease holders according to conditions chosen by the National Park Service: <http://www.presidio.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. A smaller area, this one at Cavallo Point, may more closely resemble Sandy Hook's Fort Hancock: <http://www.cavallopoint.com/>.

I hope this information helps answer your questions. Please feel free to contact us for more information. Our main website for the adaptive reuse of Fort Hancock is <http://www.forthancock21stcentury.org/home>.

John Harlan Warren  
cell 917-299-3843

\*\*\*\*\*

I could not have said it better myself. Thank you, Mr. Warren of the NPS. His e mail confirms that building a gas line and metering station in historic hangars in Floyd Bennett Field is inconsistent with NPS policy.

FA5-10

A further reason why I urge FERC to reject this proposed project is that Transcontinental cannot be trusted to construct it. This matter will have a monumental damaging impact on the environment, even if all goes well. If the construction is performed haphazardly, the result can be devastating, even deadly. In a jury trial, a judge would instruct the jury, if you find that any witness has willfully testified falsely as to any material fact or important matter, the law permits you to **disregard completely the entire testimony of that witness . . . .**" **PJI 1:22.** It is logical to assume that one who testifies falsely about one material fact is likely to testify falsely about everything." **PJI 1:22.**

FA5-11

I already presented oral remarks questioning the honesty of TRANSCO regarding this project. Among other issues, TRANSCO misrepresented to Congress and to FERC (in its 7C application) the claimed benefits of this Rockaway Lateral Project. As has been stated so eloquently by Ms. Karen Orlando and others, TRANSCO claimed that the

Page 5 of 8

FA5-10

Comment noted.

FA5-11

See the responses to comments CM1-40 and CM1-56.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-11  
(cont'd) Rockaway Lateral would deliver 647,000 dths of *new gas*. This statement is untrue since the Rockaway Lateral will not, alone, deliver anyway near this supply. Rather, the Rockway project must be connected with other projects. TRANSCO's exaggerations caused Congress to pass HR 2606 based on false information.

FA5-12 I have another example of Transco/NPS misrepresentations. I along with other park users met with TRANSCO and the NPS last year about the Rockaway Lateral Project. They knew we were upset by the project and the use of the hangars for a metering station. TRANSCO and/or NPS represented that HR 2606 only allowed the NPS to "discuss" the leasing of Hangars 1 and 2. That was a lie. The purpose of that bill and subsequent statute was to attempt to alter the laws concerning the use of park land and to try to allow the placement of the metering station in historic hangars at Floyd Bennett Field. TRANSCO knew this was way beyond mere discussions. And at the same time they were telling us this, they were engaging in some work inside Hangars 1 and 2 with the full expectation that the bill would pass.

In sum, Transco cannot be trusted to build or to supervise this project. Their application should be denied.

FA5-13 A third reason to deny this application is safety/engineering concerns. Councilman Lew Fidler and others have written to FERC to express concern that there are few working fire hydrants in Floyd Bennett Field and up Flatbush Avenue. The park consists of acres and acres of marine forest that can become very flammable during dry spells. A gas fed fire would burn for hours, spread quickly and consume many acres of land.

FA5-14 Floyd Bennett Field and surroundings are located on a narrow peninsular. If there were a gas leak or fire, the only thoroughfare in or out of the area would be Flatbush Avenue. New York City is building a gas pipeline right under Flatbush Avenue.

FA5-15 Based upon its own literature, the NPS wants to expand and encourage public use of Floyd Bennett Field for recreational activities that could attract hundreds or even thousands of people. In recent years, Floyd Bennett Field has been used for concerts, the Kings County Fair, camping and other events. It is surrounded by a tall fence with, at most, two entrances/exits. Oftentimes, one of the exits is locked and closed! Hence if there were a fire, explosion or gas leak, potentially hundreds or even thousands of people would be trapped in Floyd Bennett Field because Flatbush Avenue would either be blocked and/or it would be very congested with traffic. People trapped in the park would have to run, bicycle or drive to Jamaica Bay on the eastern end of the park and wait for help or jump into the water. The fire department and other rescuers would have great trouble arriving at Floyd Bennett Field down Flatbush Avenue. In sum, the

Page 6 of 8

FA5-12 Comment noted. Also see the response to comment CM1-44.

FA5-13 See the response to comment CM2-27.

FA5-14 See the response to comment CM1-11.

FA5-15 See the responses to comments CM1-11 and CM1-34.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-15  
(conf'd) planned location of this pipeline and metering station is unsafe in the event of an emergency.

FA5-16 I also share the concerns of retired engineer Dominick Gibino of Manassas, Virginia and others that the Rockaways and Floyd Bennett Field are at risk of flooding, and such flooding may destroy any alleged safety features built into the project. I share Mr. Gibino's concerns and appreciate his comments that, "years ago {he} read with interest the engineering assessments that said the probability of a nuclear accident at the Three Mile Island facility was negligible." Presumably the experts who designed and built the Fukushima nuclear reactor also believed they had created a safe facility, yet following a tsunami in March 2011, the reactor continues to pollute the air and ocean. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_the\\_Fukushima\\_Daiichi\\_nuclear\\_disaster](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_the_Fukushima_Daiichi_nuclear_disaster).

FA5-17 The proposed metering station would be completely unmanned. The facility would be monitored from Texas electronically. There would be no security guard on site to protect against criminal activity or a terrorist attack. No one would be on site to monitor for a gas leak or other important malfunction.

I personally visited Floyd Bennett Field very soon after Sandy and based on my observations, it appears that electric power had been disrupted. Electric power was also disrupted in the nearby Rockaways. In some parts of Queens and Long Island, electricity was unavailable for weeks. Without electric power, how would the metering station be monitored from afar? How would the gas supply be regulated? How would the hangars be safeguarded against criminal activity?

FA5-18 There is a further safety reason why the metering station does not belong in Floyd Bennett Field. Floyd Bennett Field and, indeed, southern Flatbush Avenue, is built largely on landfill. Overtime, landfill shifts and moves. Furthermore, I believe there should be an independent study of the water table underneath Floyd Bennett Field and/or Flatbush Avenue.

I live in Marine Park, Brooklyn which is about 1 mile or so from Floyd Bennett Field. I have been told that my neighborhood has a fairly high water table underground. Therefore, in the event of a heavy rain, the underground water level can rise, causing flooding and causing the landfill and soil under the ground to wash away. It is my understanding that when pipes are placed underground, they need support underneath them. If the landfill or dirt underground should shift or wash away, the gas pipes may not have adequate support. Hence, if they are subjected to vibrations such as from the traffic on Flatbush Avenue, the forces will eventually cause the pipes to weaken and break. This is one of the reasons why old water pipes sometimes break in the City of New York.

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FA5-16 See the response to comment IND22-1.

FA5-17 See the response to comment CM1-79. The M&R facility would include an emergency use generator.

FA5-18 See the response to comment IND32-14.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

FA5-19 Finally, FERC issued a draft EIS assuming that the project would be built during the off season. Recently Transco has asked permission to engage in construction in the ocean and bay DURING THE SUMMER WHEN PEOPLE ARE USING THE PARK AND THE BEACH. This is an outrageous request. Construction during the summer would prevent people from using the water and beach and would have a terrible environmental impact on marine life present in the water.

FA5-20 For all of the above reasons as well as the additional reasons previously presented, I respectfully ask that you not allow Transco to proceed with this awful project. I especially ask that the metering station and gas pipes NOT be located within Gateway National Park.

Very truly yours,



Gay H. Snyder


US Army Corp Comments November 2013

Page 8 of 8

FA5-19 See the response to comment CM1-14.

FA5-20 Your opposition to the Rockaway Project is noted.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

		<b>Natural Resources Protective Association</b> P.O. Box 050328 Staten Island, NY 10305 (718) 987-6037 <i>Established 1977</i>	
November 24, 2013			
<b>Executive Director</b> Bill Samoff  <b>Secretary</b> Richard Chan  <b>Treasurer</b> John Matzila <i>Public Notice's Conservation Association</i>  <b>Environmental Coordinator</b> Emily W. Jacobson <i>North Shore Conservation Conference for Environmental Justice</i>  <b>East Shore Coordinator</b> Deborah C. Santiago	<b>Jodi M. McDonald</b> Chief, Regulatory Branch USACE, New York District Jacob K. Javits Federal Building New York, NY 10278-0090	RE: Public Notice Number: NAN-2012-00582-EHA	
		Dear Ms. McDonald:	
The Natural Resources Protective Association is a citywide, all volunteer membership association. We focus on preservation and protection of marine and shoreline habitat and open space issues. Many of our members are involved in recreational and commercial fishing activities and some live in the immediate vicinity of the project area.			
	FA5-21	1) We are requesting a ninety day extension to the comment period. The Project will have significant ecological impacts and many affected parties were not aware of this Public Notice.	See the response to comment FA5-5.
<b>Treasurer</b> Charles Perry <i>President of Pace Club Beach</i>  <b>Anthony Rose</b> <i>Naam Island Divers</i>  <b>James Scarcetta</b> <i>Friends of C. Water</i>  <b>Martin Schreithorn Ph.D.</b> <i>ABC, LLC</i>  <b>John Tancredi Ph.D.</b> <i>ABC, LLC</i>  <b>Andrew Walter</b> <i>NY-ND Developer</i>  <b>Emily Zepi</b> <i>Teach Ocean Action</i>	FA5-22  FA5-23	2) Because of the potential magnitude of the impacts, we are also requesting a Public Hearing at a location in southern Brooklyn or Queens.  3) The Work Description includes Aboveground Facilities that would be constructed in "the historic airplane hanger complex at Floyd Bennet Field". This runs contrary to what has been proposed and promised for Floyd Bennet Field. In September, 2010, there were Public Meetings, convened by a Blue Ribbon Panel, about the future of Floyd Bennet Field. Attendees were adamant that only environmental, educational and recreational uses should be permitted at Floyd Bennet Field. Permitting new industrial uses at this complex, disguised inside of historical buildings, runs contrary to the entire process of soliciting public input. Furthermore, there are significant concerns about the safety of such facilities.	See the response to comment FA5-5.  Your opposition to use of the hangars for the proposed M&R facility is noted. See the response to comment CM1-34.
	FA5-24	4) The project will have significant short term, long term and potentially permanent impacts on marine habitat. Installing the pipeline will require disruption of a 2.15 length of sea bottom with a post lay jet sled. According to the FERC DEIS, construction of the HDD pit would directly impact 38 acres of seabed with an additional 402 acres impacted by sedimentation. This would bury benthic communities and also result in dispersal of any contaminated sediments in the area, increasing bioaccumulation. The pit itself would contain cuttings and drilling fluids of unidentified, proprietary composition, including substances that may be toxic to marine life. It would then be capped with presumably clean sediments. But if the cap is displaced, the fluids and cuttings will disperse into the surrounding habitat and there is evidence	Comment noted. Impacts on the marine environment due to offshore trenching and the HDD operation are discussed in Sections 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of the EIS. See the response to comment CM1-85 regarding the potential for resuspension of contaminated sediments in the water column.

## FA5 – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (cont'd)

NRLA P2

FA5-24  
(cont.)

that this may occur. In the Nor'Easter of 1992, the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) lost over 200,000 cubic yards of cap material. Hurricane Sandy directly impacted the proposed HDD project area and caused significant movement of bottom sediments and debris. Furthermore, the construction of a new pit within the New York Bight for the disposal of possibly contaminated sediments, near a public beach and environmentally sensitive areas is a very poor decision.

FA5-25

5) The sea bottom will be disturbed by the jetting process and it will take several years for successional communities of species resembling the pre-trenching population to become established. However, the pipeline will require periodic maintenance every seven years, so by the time populations are re-established, they will be disturbed again. This will result in long term, perhaps permanent damage to marine biota and local fisheries.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on this project. I may be reached at 917-923-0360 if additional information is needed.

Sincerely,




Ida Sanoff,  
Executive Director

FA5-25

See the response to comment CM2-24.



## FA6 – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency

20131209-5166 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/9/2013 1:27:22 PM	
	
Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services	December 09, 2013
Farm Service Agency	To: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street NE Washington, DC 20426
Farm Programs	From: Nell Fuller National Environmental Compliance Manager USDA, Farm Service Agency (FSA)
Conservation & Environmental Programs Division	Subject: eFiling FSA's Comments on the EIS for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects for the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC; Project Docket No. CP13-36-000 and CP13-132-000
1400 Independence Ave, SW Stop 0513 Washington, DC 20250-0513	
Voice: 202-719-6221 Fax: 202-719-4619	
<p>Thank you for requesting FSA comments on the environmental review of the Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects for the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company, LLC. Pipeline routing, infrastructure, and other corridor projects have the potential to impact FSA program lands and it is important to consider the potential impact of these types of projects on agricultural lands when evaluating alternatives.</p>	
FA6-1	<p>For any project potentially impacting FSA program land, including the initial construction plan development, the construction, initial restoration, post-construction monitoring, and follow-up restoration, the following information should be provided to the FSA County Offices in which the project will be occurring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The program participant's name, location of impacted program land, and FSA program(s) the impacted land is currently enrolled in (should be obtained from land owner).</li><li>• A description of construction techniques to be used including sediment /erosion control, plan, time schedule of proposed activities, and contact person.</li><li>• The length of time the FSA program land will be impacted.</li><li>• Proposed site remediation to return land back to pre-impacted state. Remediation of the site should be consistent with the appropriate NRCS Field Office Technical Guide Standard. The contractor should meet with the appropriate NRCS State Agronomist/Resource Conservationist to review the proposed sediment erosion control plan, remediation activities, management requirements, and the time schedule of activities prior to the start of the project.</li><li>• Proposed maintenance (including weed control) on FSA program land if in a permanent easement.</li></ul> <p>The FSA County Office shall ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The proposed construction, remediation, and maintenance meet the minimum program requirements for the applicable program enrolled and all requirements defined under the approved conservation plan for the enrolled program land.</li></ul> <p>USDA is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer</p>

FA6-1

The Rockaway and Northeast Connector Projects do not impact Farm Service Agency lands.

## FA6 – U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (cont'd)

20131209-5166 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/9/2013 1:27:22 PM

FSA Comments to FERC  
Transcontinental's Rockaway Delivery Projects EIS  
Docket No. CP13-36-000 and CP13-132-000

FA6-1  
(cont'd)

- If crops are to be impacted, that the proposed impact will not adversely impact their base acreage, or impact their current eligibility to maintain program participation or future eligibility to participate in FSA programs.
- The receipt of income will not impact the participant's ability to fulfill any FSA farm loan financial requirements or impact their outstanding indebtedness (a Farm Loan Officer should be consulted).
- Any proposed construction activities on CRP land shall not occur during the Primary Nesting Season specified for that State.
- All FSA program participants' files are updated to reflect any changes associated with the pipeline project.

Any time FSA program land is potentially impacted by a proposed FERC action, the impacts should be fully disclosed in the NEPA document and alternatives to those impacts assessed, including avoidance, minimization, and mitigation.

Please continue to include FSA in all NEPA projects that have the potential to impact agricultural lands.

FA6-2

Lastly, PLEASE change the FSA contact information on your NEPA mailing list to: Nell Fuller, FSA National Environmental Compliance Manager, [nell.fuller@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:nell.fuller@wdc.usda.gov), 202-720-6303.


Thank you.

FA6-2

The mailing list contact information has been updated.

## FA7 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service

20140130-5105 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 1/30/2014 11:42:26 AM



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
NORTHEAST REGION  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2276

JAN 30 2014

Mr. James Martin, Chief  
Gas Branch 3  
Office of Energy Projects  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426


RE: OEP/DG2E Gas Branch 3, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, LLC  
Docket Nos. CP13-36-000  
ATTN: Kara Harris, FERC Environmental Project Manager

Dear Mr. Martin:

We have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the supplemental information, including the essential fish habitat assessment (EFH), provided by your office and the applicant for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project proposed by the Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Company (Transco). The proposed project includes the construction and operation of a new natural gas transmission pipeline and associated facilities in Kings and Queens Counties, New York. Transco proposes to install 3.2 miles of new 26-inch diameter subsea pipeline from their existing Lower New York Bay Lateral in the Atlantic Ocean to an onshore delivery point at an interconnection with National Grid's pipeline system on the Rockaway Peninsula in Queens County, NY. In addition, a new metering and regulating facility within the National Park Service's Gateway National Recreation Area is proposed.

The seaward 2.15 miles of the subsea pipeline would be installed using a post-lay jet sled. The pipeline will be backfilled with four feet of cover measured from the top of the pipe and the seabed would be returned to pre-construction conditions. Should four feet of cover not be achieved by the third jet sled pass, the applicant would use a suction dredge to remove material adjacent to the pipeline and deposit it on top of the pipe. Horizontal directional drilling (HDD) is proposed for the remaining shoreward portion of the pipeline. The proposed HDD route would begin at an upland entry site and exit offshore. To construct the HDD exit pit, Transco proposes to use a clamshell bucket dredge to remove approximately 15,300 cubic yards of material from the exit pit site and to side cast the material adjacent to the pit. The HDD drilling fluids and cutting would be left in place in the HDD exit pit following construction and covered with a cap of native or comparable material.

As you are aware, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) requires Federal agencies to consult with one another on projects such as this. Because this project affects EFH, this process is guided by the requirements of our EFH regulation at 50 CFR 600.905, which mandates the preparation of EFH assessments, lists the required contents of EFH assessments, and generally outlines each agency's obligations in this consultation procedure. We



## FA7 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (cont'd)

20140130-5105 FERC PDF {Unofficial} 1/30/2014 11:42:26 AM

have review the EFH assessment for this project and offer the following comments and recommendations pursuant to the above referenced regulatory process.

### FA7-1 General Comments

Overall, the EFH assessment evaluates most of the project's potential impacts to EFH, federally managed species and other species adequately. The exception is the evaluation of the anode protection bed. The EFH assessment does consider the potential effects of the installation of the bed, but not its operation. The documents provided do not provide sufficient information to determine if electrical energy flowing through the bed will affect benthic organisms and fish. You should ensure that this is evaluated prior to construction of the project. Additional coordination with us may be necessary if it is determined that an adverse effect may occur.

FA7-2 We are concerned about the side casting of material dredged from the HDD exit pit and the dredging of material from along the pipeline alignment to cover the HDD pit and the areas along the pipeline that are not buried sufficiently during the final sled pass and the effects on EFH, federally managed species and their forage base. The dredging and side casting of the material may directly entrain eggs and larvae in the dredge and create undesirable suspended sediment levels in the water column that can reduce dissolved oxygen, mask pheromones used by migratory fishes, and smother immobile benthic organisms and eggs and larvae of newly-settled juvenile demersal fish (Auld and Schubel 1978; Breitburg 1988; Newcombe and MacDonald 1991; Burton 1993; Nelson and Wheeler 1997).

The federally managed winter flounder (*Pseudopleuronectes americanus*) and its EFH may be affected adversely by the side casting of sediments from the HDD pit and the dredging for cap material. Winter flounder have demersal and adhesive eggs that sink and remain on the bottom until they hatch. After hatching, the larvae are initially planktonic, but following metamorphosis they assume an epibenthic existence. Winter flounder larvae are negatively buoyant (Pereira et al. 1999), and are typically more abundant near the bottom (Abic and Fahay 1998). These life stages are less mobile and thus more likely to be affected by the dredging and side casting of sediments onto their eggs larvae and spawning and early life stage habitat.

Benthic organisms that are food sources for federally managed species may also be smothered by the side casting of the materials from the HDD pit. These impacts may be temporary in nature if the substrate conditions return to preconstruction condition and benthic community recovers with the same or similar organisms. The impacts may be permanent if the substrate is altered in a way that reduces its suitability as habitat, or if the benthic community is altered in a way that reduces its suitability as forage habitat.

In order to minimize these potential effects, the material excavated from the HDD pit should be placed on a barge and stockpiled for use in capping the pit and back filling areas along the pipeline that were not covered during the jet plowing. This may reduce or eliminate the need to dredge additional material from the sides of the pipeline to obtain sufficient cover over the pipe or reduce the amount of material to be dredged. Alternatively, the material may be removed and reused beneficially on uplands or for beach renourishment.

FA7-1 Section 4.6.4 of the EIS has been updated to include additional information about the anode bed.

FA7-2 Section 4.6.3.2 of the EIS has been updated to include a discussion of the potential effects of storing the excavated material from the offshore HDD exit pit on barges as an alternative to temporarily sidecasting the material on the seabed.

## FA7 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (cont'd)

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FA7-3 In addition, post construction monitoring of both the pipeline alignment as the HDD pit cap should be performed. There have been instances with other pipelines, including the Iroquois Pipeline in Long Island Sound, where the bottom contours did not recover fully following pipeline installation leaving ridges and valleys along the pipeline alignment. Unsuitable bottom contours may interfere with the movement of horseshoe crabs (*Limulus polyphemus*), lobsters (*Homarus americanus*), and other aquatic organisms. We agree that active back filling is one means of ensure the restoration of the bottom contours, but we also recommend periodic monitoring of the pipeline alignment so that the post-construction bottom contours can be evaluated and the need for additional remedial measures can be assessed. We recommend annual bathymetric monitoring of the alignment beginning approximately 12 months following completion of construction. The annual surveys should be done for five subsequent years following pipeline construction.

Remedial actions may be required if the monitoring reveals slopes along the pipeline route are greater than 30% or depressions within the trench are more than 2 feet deep. If this occurs, coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and us should be undertaken to determine the need for remedial actions. This is similar to what was required for the Iroquois Pipeline and the Neptune electric transmission line project across Raritan and Sandy Hook Bays. If the monitoring shows the bottom contours have recovered sooner than five years, monitoring can be discontinued. Similar monitoring should be undertaken at the HDD exit pit site to ensure that cap over the drilling fluids and cutting remains stable. Also, given the pipeline's location near shore, we suggest Transco survey the pipeline and HDD pit location following significant storm events such as hurricanes or strong nor'easters to ensure both the pipeline and HDD drilling fluids remain covered.

FA7-4 In several instances in documents provided, it states that the benthic community is expected to recover within a year. To demonstrate this recovery, we recommend that Transco conduct a benthic survey approximately 12 months post construction in a manner comparable to the pre-construction surveys. If recovery has not occurred after this time, additional monitoring may be needed until it can be shown that recovery of the benthic community has occurred. Remedial measures or mitigation may be recommended if recovery is not achieved within three years post construction. This is similar to the requirements of the Neptune electric transmission line project

### FA7-5 Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Recommendations

Pursuant to Section 305 (b) (4) (A) of the MSA, we recommend the following EFH conservation recommendations be incorporated into the project:

1. The material dredging from the HDD pit should not be side casted on to the adjacent bottom to minimize adverse effects to the benthic community, and forage, refuge and spawning habitat for federally managed species.
2. A post-construction monitoring plan should be developed and implemented to assess the recovery of the bottom contours and benthic community and to ensure the cap over the HDD pit and pipeline remains in place.

FA7-3 We included a recommendation in Section 4.6.3.2 for Transco to provide a post-construction bathymetric monitoring plan to evaluate the restoration of the seabed prior to construction.

FA7-4 We included a recommendation in Section 4.3.6.2 for Transco to provide a post-construction benthic monitoring and sampling plan prior to construction.

FA7-5 The conservation measures are discussed in Section 4.6.5.

## FA7 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (cont'd)

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FA7-6 Please note that Section 305 (b)(4)(B) of the MSA requires you to provide us with a detailed written response to these EFH conservation recommendations, including the measures adopted by you for avoiding, mitigating, or offsetting the impact of the project on EFH. In the case of a response that is inconsistent with our recommendations, Section 305 (b) (4) (B) of the MSA also indicates that you must explain your reasons for not following the recommendations. Included in such reasoning would be the scientific justification for any disagreements with us over the anticipated effects of the proposed action and the measures needed to avoid, minimize, mitigate or offset such effect pursuant to 50 CFR 600.920 (k).

Please also note that a distinct and further EFH consultation must be reinitiated pursuant to 50 CFR 600.920 (j) if new information becomes available, or if the project is revised in such a manner that affects the basis for the above EFH conservation recommendations.

FA7-7 **Endangered Species Act**

On October 24, 2013, we received your request for Section 7 consultation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973. We are currently coordinating with your agency to obtain additional information and analyses necessary for our assessment of the direct and indirect effects of the action on our listed species. Consultation will be initiated once we receive all requested information.

We look forward to continued coordination with your office on this project as it moves forward. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Greene at [karen.greene@noaa.gov](mailto:karen.greene@noaa.gov) or (732) 872-3023. For questions regarding the Section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act, please contact Danielle Palmer at [Danielle.palmer@noaa.gov](mailto:Danielle.palmer@noaa.gov) or 978-282-8468.

Sincerely,



Louis A. Chiarella,  
Assistant Regional Administrator  
for Habitat Conservation

cc: ACOE-NYD, N. Handell

FA7-6 See the response to comment FA7-5.

FA7-7 Comment noted.

## FA7 – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (cont'd)

20140130-5105 FERC PDF {Unofficial} 1/30/2014 11:42:26 AM

### Literature Cited

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Burton, W.H. 1993. Effects of bucket dredging on water quality in the Delaware River and the potential for effects on fisheries resources. Prepared for: Delaware Basin Fish and Wildlife Management Cooperative, by Versar Inc, Columbia MD.


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Pereira, J.J. R. Goldberg, J.J. Ziskowski, P.L. Berrien, W.W. Morse, and D.L. Johnson. 1999. Essential Fish Habitat Source Document: Winter Flounder, *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*, Life History and Habitat Characteristics. U.S. Dep. Commer., NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-NE-138.

# STATE AGENCIES

## SA1 – New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

	
<b>State of New Jersey</b>	
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	
OFFICE OF PERMIT COORDINATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW	
P.O. Box 420 Mail Code 401-07J Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420	
Telephone Number (609) 292-3600	
FAX NUMBER (609) 633-2102	
<b>CHRIS CHRISTIE</b> <i>Governor</i>	<b>BOB MARTIN</b> <i>Commissioner</i>
<b>ORIGINAL</b>	
<b>KIM GUADAGNO</b> <i>Lt. Governor</i>	
November 20, 2013	
<p>Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20426</p>	
<p><b>RE: Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects</b> <b>FERC Docket No. CP 13-36-000 and CP13-132-000</b></p>	
<b>Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement</b>	
Dear Secretary Bose:	
<p>The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (Department) Office of Permit Coordination and Environmental Review (PCER) distributed, for review and comment, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects. We offer the following comments for your consideration.</p>	
<b><u>Natural Resources</u></b>	
SA1-1	<p>The Department's Division of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) does not foresee any impact to fish and wildlife resources for the portion of this project which includes the modification of two (2) compressor stations in New Jersey.</p>
<b><u>Cultural Resources</u></b>	
SA1-2	<p>The Department's Historic Preservation Office (HPO) thanks you for providing the opportunity to review and comment on the potential for the above-referenced project to affect historic and archaeological resources in New Jersey. Based on the information received, project activities will not affect historic properties, therefore, no additional survey is required and the HPO does not recommend further consideration of historic and archaeological resources prior to permit issuance.</p> <p>If the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has any questions, please contact Caroline Charlese Scott at (609) 633-2396 for questions regarding historic structures, districts, or landscapes or Vincent Maresca at (609) 633-2395 with questions regarding archaeology (both with the HPO).</p>
<small>New Jersey is an Equal Opportunity Employer   Printed on Recycled Paper and Recyclable</small>	

SA1-1      Comment noted.

SA1-2      Comment noted.



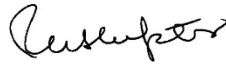
## SA1 – New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (cont'd)

### Air Quality

SA1-3 | The Department's Bureau of Air Quality Planning has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and has no comment.

Thank you for giving the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral and Northeast Connector Projects.

Sincerely,



Ruth Foster  
Supervisor  
Office of Permit Coordination  
and Environmental Review


C: Ken Koschek, NJDEP – PCER  
Kelly Davis, NJDEP - Fish and Wildlife  
Caroline Charlese Scott, NJDEP - Historic Preservation  
Vincent Maresca, NJDEP - Historic Preservation  
Angela Skowronek, NJDEP - Air Quality Planning

SA1-3

Comment noted.

## SA2 – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

20131216-0018 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/16/2013



**pennsylvania**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR

ORIGINAL

FILED  
SECRETARY OF THE  
COMMISSION

2013 DEC 16 A 9 26

FEDERAL ENERGY  
REGULATORY COMMISSION

December 9, 2013

Ms. Kimberly Bose  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Public Reference Room  
888 First Street NE, Room 2A  
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project  
and Northeast Connector Projects Environmental Impact Statement  
Docket No. CP13-36-000 and CP13-132-000

Dear Ms. Bose:

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has reviewed the information regarding the above referenced project.

Before proceeding with this project that will span multiple counties in Pennsylvania, please consider the following comments:

SA2-1 1. Pennsylvania Clean Streams Law. For the portion of the project located in York County, please contact the York County Conservation District at 717.840.7430 to discuss the requirements for Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plans and Chapter 102 permit requirements, such as NPDES Permits for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activities or the Erosion and Sediment Control Permit for oil and gas activities (ESCGP-2).

In addition to the activities referenced above, any activities that involve additional earth disturbance over the life of the project must also meet the requirements of 25 Pa. Code Chapter 102, which again may include the requirement to obtain an E&S Permit prior to commencing the earth disturbance activity.

SA2-2 2. Pennsylvania Dam Safety and Encroachments Act. A Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permit may be required if the project impacts any watercourse, stream, wetland, floodway, floodplain, or other body of water.

SA2-3 3. Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. Any construction or earth disturbance activities must comply with 25 Pa. Code Sections 123.1 and 123.2. These sections generally require that 1) reasonable measures must be taken to minimize airborne dust nuisances from construction activities, 2) any dirt drag-out onto paved streets must be promptly removed, and 3) any airborne dust generated from construction activities may not visibly cross off-property.

Southcentral Regional Office | 909 Elmerton Avenue | Harrisburg, PA 17110-8200

717.705.4704 | Fax 717.705.4930 www.depweb.state.pa.us

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| SA2-1 | Transco submitted an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan to the York County Conservation District on December 17, 2013.                          |
| SA2-2 | The Northeast Connector Project would not require a Water Obstruction and Stream Encroachment Permit because no waterbodies would be affected. |
| SA2-3 | Transco stated it would require its construction contractors to implement dust control measures during construction.                           |

## SA2 – Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (cont'd)

20131216-0018 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/16/2013

Ms. Kimberly Bose - 2 - December 9, 2013

SA2-4 4. Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. Any paving or repaving activities must comply with 25 Pa. Code Section 129.64. This section generally prohibits the use of cutback asphalt for paving purposes except for 1) long-life stockpile, 2) use or application between October 31 and April 30, 3) used solely as a tack coat, penetrating prime coat, dust palliative or aggregate precoat, or 4) skin patch as necessary during October.


SA2-5 5. Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act. Any construction activities that employ non-road engines or hot asphalt plants must be conducted under the authorization of General Permit - 11 (relating to non-road engines) or General Permit - 13 (relating to hot mix asphalt plants). The Department will take action on a general permit application within 30 days of receipt of such application.

SA2-6 6. Pennsylvania Solid Waste Management Act. All construction and demolition waste should be properly transported and disposed of at a DEP permitted facility. Open burning of waste is not acceptable. You may also want to consider deconstruction and salvage to reduce the costs of disposal.

SA2-7 7. Federal Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification. Because the applicant is seeking a federal authorization from FERC and that authorization will lead to a discharge to Pennsylvania waters, the applicant also must apply for a 401 water quality certification from DEP. This certification would cover any earth disturbance associated discharges as well as impacts to streams and wetlands under the Commonwealth's Dam Safety and Encroachments Act and 25 Pa. Code Chapter 105.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this project. If you would like to meet with us to discuss the project, please call me at 717.705.4929.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Conrad  
Assistant Regional Director

- SA2-4 Transco stated it would employ local and reputable paving contractors who would comply with the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Act.
- SA2-5 Transco stated it would comply with the provisions of General Permit 11 applicable to the Northeast Connector Project.
- SA2-6 Transco stated it would require its construction contractors to dispose of solid waste at approved waste disposal sites.
- SA2-7 Water quality certification would not be required for the Northeast Connector Project because no wetlands or waterbodies would be affected.

## COMPANIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

### CO1 – Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline

Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline  
172 Fifth Avenue, PMB 126, Brooklyn, New York 11217

December 7, 2013

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

Jeff C. Wright, Director  
Office of Energy Projects  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

Re: Request for Extension of Comment Period in connection with  
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for  
Docket CP13-36-000 Proposed Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project

Dear Secretary Bose,

CO1-1

In light of the redesign of this project and significant changes in the construction schedule—from winter to summer construction—the Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline requests a 120-day extension of the comment period and other remedies. On October 4, 2013, FERC issued the DEIS for the Rockaway Delivery Lateral Project. On October 18, 2013—2 weeks after the DEIS publication and only days before the public hearings in Rockaway, Queens, and Brooklyn—Williams Transco (hereafter Transco) submitted 543 pages of new documentation. This documentation included:

☐ New sediment modeling studies based on options of dredging methods only recently discussed and still not finalized;

☐ Over 350 pages of impact revisions: 2 volumes of revisions to the critical Essential Fish Habitat Assessment and Biological Assessment, and 1 volume of changes to Transco's Request for Authorization of Incidental Harassment under the Marine Mammal Protection Act;

☐ An Addendum to the NYS Coastal Zone Consistency Assessment (CZCA), which "supersedes the January 2013 CZCA and provides Transco's amended policy conclusions per the revised proposed Project construction schedule and modifications to the proposed action" [20131018-5181(28841325), p461];

☐ The stunning announcement that Transco is planning to carry out construction during the summer months—the period of greatest activity in the park and the marine environment.

On November 5, 2013—a full month into the DEIS comment period—Transco submitted yet another set of documents: 555 pages of design and construction documents and SHPO correspondence. And more changes can be expected. In fact, a week after the DEIS was

CO1-1

See the responses to comments CM1-1, CM1-14, and CM1-122.

## CO1 – Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline (cont'd)

CO1-1  
(cont.)

published, Transco's consultant, Ecology & Environment, notified the NYS Department of State that "Transco's evaluation of the revised schedule and changes to the proposed action have been ongoing and will continue."

According to FERC, "The draft EIS assesses the potential environmental effects of construction and operation of the Projects." Yet how can we, the public, assess these "potential environmental effects" **if the DEIS is based on an entirely different construction schedule with an entirely different set of impacts than the one that Transco is now proposing?**

In the original proposal, Transco repeatedly pointed to the winter construction schedule as the primary method of mitigating negative impacts on marine biology. In its new proposal, Transco clearly recognizes that the proposed summer schedule and project modifications will result in "greater potential for Project impact" [20131018-5181 (28841325), p461], **yet the DEIS discusses none of these impacts.**

The purpose of the comment period is to provide the public with the best available analysis of the *actual* project and its projected impacts, to allow the public sufficient time to digest the material and add its voice to the discussion. Given the radically changed nature of the project, this is not possible without a significant extension in the comment period.

The docket on this project is vast, the DEIS is of considerable size, and during the time that has been allotted for commenting on the DEIS reams of additional documentation have been added. The present comment period is simply too short; there is not sufficient time to review all that has been put before us.

In fact, FERC has not made it clear which project the public is being asked to comment on: the original project, assessed in the DEIS? Or the entirely new project emerging from the more than 1,000 pages of documentation submitted by Transco since the DEIS was published?

The new information submitted by Transco lacks the vetting provided by the FERC process. It directly contradicts the original proposal.

For these reasons, we are requesting that FERC:

- ☐ Extend the current comment period to allow the public sufficient time to assess Transco's new proposal;
- ☐ Issue a new draft EIS consistent with the project Transco is now proposing;
- ☐ Issue a new public notice, one that is designed to reach the true stakeholders in the project, namely, the millions of New Yorkers who use Gateway National Recreation Area every year.

This latter request is necessary to compensate for the fact that the National Park Service successfully—and deliberately—hid this project from the public.

Sincerely,

Martha Cameron

## CO1 – Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline (cont'd)

Co-Coordinator  
Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline

Maureen Healy  
Co-Coordinator  
Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline

Edie Kantrowitz  
Co-Coordinator  
Coalition Against the Rockaway Pipeline

Cc: Kara Harris  
Environmental Project Manager  
Office of Energy Projects

## CO2 – Sane Energy Project



Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Docket number CP13-36-000**

Dear Secretary Bose,  
FERC has determined in its dEIS that the construction and operation of the Rockaway Lateral projects "would result in limited adverse environmental impacts, which would mostly occur during construction." Likewise, the EPA rated the dEIS and the proposed alternative as "Lack of Objections—Adequate," stating their review "has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal." As this is the kind of standard boilerplate included in most FERC EISs, we are not surprised, and we strenuously object.

Our objections and questions are being submitted as separate comments organized by dEIS section or topic. We request a direct response by FERC and the applicant to the questions raised, as well as alteration of the EIS to address these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration.

Clare Donohue  
On behalf of the 5,302 members of Sane Energy Project

**Topic: Lack of Notification**

CO2-1 | 2.5 million people reside in Brooklyn; approximately 150,000 reside on the Rockaway Peninsula. How many residents did FERC directly reach by its announcement of the project in the federal register and via other means? How many residents does FERC typically reach when announcing energy projects?

FERC failed to provide any real or useful notification to local residents. While National Grid maintains this project is to the benefit of residents of the Rockaway Peninsula and Brooklyn, it is clear that those residents were not made aware of the project, were not given a choice or even consulted as to whether this would be their desired energy choice. HR2606 was passed a few days after the peninsula lost power due to Hurricane Sandy. Most residents were still recovering from the storm (many are STILL not recovered) when the scoping meetings, public comment periods and public hearings were announced. No accommodations to these realities were made by FERC.

FERC's notification process is completely inadequate, undemocratic, and purposefully obscure. If the paltry showing at the public hearings was any indication, FERC succeeded in keeping the project almost entirely under wraps.

We call on FERC again, as we did at the public hearings, to mail notification of the project to every resident on the Rockaway Peninsula and within 5 miles of the pipeline's Brooklyn transit. If FERC and Transco truly want to engage the public then they ought to be obligated to INFORM the public. The builder of all pipeline proposals should be required to inform all residents within a 5-mile radius if any project even when that project does not traverse private property and especially when it traverses publicly-owned land.

CO2-1

See the response to comment CM1-1.

## CO3 – Sane Energy Project



Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Docket number CP 13-36-000**

Dear Secretary Bose,  
FERC has determined in its dEIS that the construction and operation of the Rockaway Lateral projects "would result in limited adverse environmental impacts, which would mostly occur during construction." Likewise, the EPA rated the dEIS and the proposed alternative as "Lack of Objections—Adequate," stating their review "has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal." As this is the kind of standard boilerplate included in most FERC EISs, we are not surprised, and we strenuously object.

Our objections and questions are being submitted as separate comments organized by dEIS section or topic. We request a direct response by FERC and the applicant to the questions raised, as well as alteration of the EIS to address these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clare Donohue  
On behalf of the 5,302 members of Sane Energy Project

### **Topic: Technical Competence**

CO3-1 The dEIS states, "Under Section 7(c) of the NGA, the Commission determines whether interstate natural gas transportation facilities are in the public convenience and necessity and, if so, grants a Certificate to construct and operate them. The Commission bases its decisions on **technical competence**, financing, rates, market demand, gas supply, environmental impact, long-term feasibility, and other issues concerning a proposed project."

In this comment, we would like to raise the issue of the competence of the builder, based not on what they promise to do in the current application, rather, on something far more telling: Their actual track record.

Williams-Transco, the company that requests to build the [Rockaway Lateral](#), has a [lengthy record](#) of safety violations. As [reported in June 2012](#), Williams had at that time been under a federal corrective order for 44 of the prior 45 months.

How have they performed more recently? 2013 has not been their best year either, with 5 incidents since January, including two major explosions in New Jersey and Louisiana.

If the hyperlinks do not work in this document, please refer to the URL below for the sources of the incidents listed herein: <http://saneenergyproject.org/2013/07/10/williams-safety-record/>

CO3-1

From 1993 to 2012, 32 significant pipeline incidents along nearly 200,000 miles of interstate natural gas pipeline were attributed to incorrect operations (see Table 4.12.2-1 of the EIS). This record demonstrates the technical competence of the natural gas transmission industry, including Transco.



## CO3 – Sane Energy Project (cont'd)

Some recent incidents:

003-1  
(cont.)

**Dec. 3, 2011, Sweet Water, AL:** A [coating failure](#), combined with extremely corrosive soil conditions, was blamed for pipeline rust that led to a massive explosion—heard more than 30 miles away—and a 90-minute blaze that burned eight acres of pine forest. Reports said flames were nearly 100 feet high. Transco released a statement saying they will “do our best to learn from this incident.”

**March 29, 2012, Lathrop Compressor, Springville, PA:** A [compressor station fire](#), was initially reported as an explosion, but “DEP said Williams could not confirm all the details. However, bulging walls in the building indicated there may have been an explosion.” Williams was not fined by DEP because the incident did not violate the station's air quality permits or federal pollution laws. [About 1 ton of methane](#) was released in that blast, clocking in below the greenhouse gas threshold that would have required them to seek a permit used by bigger facilities.

**April 9, 2012, Bergen, NJ:** A “pinhole”-size leak was discovered by inspectors in a 36-inch-diameter section of pipeline.

**July 23, 2012, Windsor Compressor, Windsor, NY:** A [lightning strike](#) hit the ventilation stack at the Binghamton-area compressor station, causing an emergency shut down which, because it “purged a lot of remaining gas, caused a big fireball.”

**March 23, 2013, Cameron, WV:** A [24-inch pipeline ruptured](#), causing no injuries. A Williams spokesperson would not say how much methane was released into the atmosphere as a result of the leak.

**May 14, 2013, Mosquito Bay, LA:** A [small methane leak](#) was discovered during a normal pipeline patrol in an unpopulated, swamp area.

**May 15, 2013, Williams Central Station, Montrose, PA:** The compressor station in the 100 block of Turnpike Road in Brooklyn Township [caught fire](#). DEP officials said they found visual evidence of an explosion. Williams officials said that there was no explosion, only fire.

**May 30, 2013, Branchburg NJ, 13 Injured:** [Workers were welding](#) a portion of a nonactive pipe at the compressor station at the time of the explosion, Williams, which owns the Transco national gas pipeline, is building a controversial 6.6-mile pipeline extension in the Hunterdon County municipalities of Franklin, Clinton and Union.

**June 13, 2013, Geismar, LA, 2 killed, 60 injured:** A facility that processes natural gas liquids used for plastics manufacture [exploded violently](#) as employees fled an inferno that sent flames as high as 200 feet into the air.

That's 8 incidents that we are aware of, in addition to the 44 months of corrective orders. Please explain how FERC finds this company competent enough to risk the public trust by allowing them to apply for another project, let alone build a dangerous and environmentally risky project such as the Rockaway Lateral.

## CO4 – Sane Energy Project

20131209-5066 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/8/2013 7:14:23 PM



Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Docket number CP13-36-000**

Dear Secretary Bose,  
FERC has determined in its dEIS that the construction and operation of the Rockaway Lateral projects "would result in limited adverse environmental impacts, which would mostly occur during construction." Likewise, the EPA rated the dEIS and the proposed alternative as "Lack of Objections—Adequate," stating their review "has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal." As this is the kind of standard boilerplate included in most FERC EISs, we are not surprised, and we strenuously object.

Our objections and questions are being submitted as separate comments organized by dEIS section or topic. We request a direct response by FERC and the applicant to the questions raised, as well as alteration of the EIS to address these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clare Donohue  
On behalf of the 5,302 members of Sane Energy Project

**Topic: Climate-related issues**

**dEIS SECTION 4.11.1.4 Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

**The dEIS reads:** "The most abundant GHGs are water vapor, carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), CH<sub>4</sub>, nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O), and ozone. The primary GHGs produced by fossil fuel combustion are CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>, and N<sub>2</sub>O."

CO4-1 **Response:** FERC fails to include on its list one of the most potent Greenhouse Gases: Methane, the primary component of natural gas. Methane is widely considered to create worse climate effect than oil or coal. Methane has been shown to be 20 times MORE powerful than CO<sub>2</sub> over a 100-year cycle, and 105 times more potent over a 20-year cycle. The upcoming 20 years are considered our last shot at pulling back from irreversible climate tipping points. We must be vigilant in not increasing our methane releases AT ALL and in REDUCING methane releases as quickly and as much as possible.

FERC is not even considering the upstream additions of methane venting, flaring and leaking from fracking. At this crucial time FERC must take into account the full cumulative effects of methane not just from the addition of this pipeline and local combustion, but IN ADDITION TO the leaks already happening citywide via existing and old pipelines, and in addition to the climate impacts of extraction. Please see the study of leaking Manhattan pipelines as an example of how much methane is currently being released (and can be expected to increase as pipelines age further and additional pipelines are added and begin to age): <http://www.damascuscitizenforsustainability.org/2013/03/manhattan-natural-gas-pipeline-emissions-final-report/>

CO4-1

See the responses to comments CM1-6, CM2-13, CO7-1, and IND10-19. Downstream uses of the natural gas once it is delivered to the local distribution company are not the subject of this EIS.

## CO4 – Sane Energy Project (cont'd)

20131209-5066 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/8/2013 7:14:23 PM

Also please see this report by the Union of Concerned Scientists about avoiding a dangerous overreliance on natural gas: [http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean\\_energy/climate-risks-natural-gas.pdf](http://www.ucsusa.org/assets/documents/clean_energy/climate-risks-natural-gas.pdf)

**The dEIS reads:** "It is expected that at least a portion of the incremental supply would be used to convert existing heating systems in New York City from oil to natural gas, which is consistent with city initiatives to encourage conversions from highly polluting fuels (New York City, 2011). This could reduce GHG emissions in New York City and result in a positive impact on regional air quality, but there is insufficient data available at this time to quantify the impact of conversions from fuel oil to natural gas in heating systems in New York City. National Grid (2011) estimates that displacement of fuel oil in heating systems due to the additional gas supply provided by the Projects to the BQI Project could reduce daily GHG emissions by 11,357 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e."

CO4-2 **Response:** National Grid's projections are no doubt based on their wishful thinking that 50% of buildings will seize their incentives and convert to gas. But less than 1% of buildings (about 8500 buildings) currently burn #6 or 4 heating oil, and they will not necessarily convert to gas. Many will opt for conversion to number 2 oil or biodiesel or bioD blends. The owners of many buildings that already run on number 2 oil are passing up expensive conversions and the risk of being locked into gas.

FERC admits to not having enough information to quantify the effect of conversions of NY's boilers to gas yet moves to approve the project anyway? FERC must not guess, FERC is obligated to study, and quantify.

FERC is also not looking at what happens after buildings convert to gas. A malfunctioning oil burner spews visible black smoke, but a malfunctioning gas burner spews invisible Carbon Monoxide. Does FERC support a city that only *appears* cleaner, or a city that actually is sustainably healthy?

### Issue: Sea Level Rise

CO4-3 FERC did not take into account the newly-released IPCC report, which details climate change, potential sea level rise, and expected increased storm activity, which would exacerbate flooding and storm surges. One estimate from the study projects that sea level rise in NYC by 2040 would be .4 meters (approximately 16"); other estimates vary from 33-55" by century's end.  
[http://www.climatechange2013.org/images/uploads/WGIAR5\\_WGI-12Doc2b\\_FinalDraft\\_Chapter13.pdf](http://www.climatechange2013.org/images/uploads/WGIAR5_WGI-12Doc2b_FinalDraft_Chapter13.pdf)  
(See Chapter 13, page 117, figure b)

The information provided by the dEIS is confusing and not specific enough. Please detail clearly the height above sea level the equipment for metering and reading inside the hangar at FBF would sit at. Please provide the actual height of the storm surge during Sandy, a category 1 hurricane (only estimates have been provided). Please detail the expected height of storm surge with a category 2 hurricane.

CO4-4 Please detail how Transco would protect connecting pipes rising out of the ground or floor to the level of the equipment should flood waters breach the floor of the hangar.

CO4-2

See the response to comment CM2-32. The Rockaway Project would provide both a new delivery point into the National Grid system and an incremental supply of natural gas. According to Transco, the incremental supply would be used for both current and projected future demand. It is not possible to quantify the number of boilers in New York City that would convert from heavy fuel oil to natural gas relative to any other alternative fuel sources. However, ICF International estimates that National Grid's peak day send-out could increase between 15.4 and 61.5 million cubic feet per day of natural gas assuming boiler conversion rates of 25 to 100 percent, respectively, from heavy oil to natural gas.

CO4-3

Section 4.1.4.3 of the EIS has been updated to provide additional information on sea level rise.

CO4-4

See the responses to comments CM1-8 and CM1-50. The M&R facility would be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the DOT's Minimum Federal Safety Standards in 49 CFR Part 192.

## CO5 – Sane Energy Project

20131209-5067 FERC PDF (Unofficial) 12/8/2013 7:11:49 PM



Ms. Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street NE, Room 1A  
Washington, DC 20426

**RE: Docket number CP13-36-000**

Dear Secretary Bose,  
FERC has determined in its dEIS that the construction and operation of the Rockaway Lateral projects "would result in limited adverse environmental impacts, which would mostly occur during construction." Likewise, the EPA rated the dEIS and the proposed alternative as "Lack of Objections—Adequate," stating their review "has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal." As this is the kind of standard boilerplate included in most FERC EISs, we are not surprised, and we strenuously object.

Our objections and questions are being submitted as separate comments organized by dEIS section or topic. We request a direct response by FERC and the applicant to the questions raised, as well as alteration of the EIS to address these concerns.

Thank you for your consideration,

Clare Donohue  
On behalf of the 5,302 members of Sane Energy Project

**dEIS SECTION 4.11.1.5 Radon Exposure:**

CO5-1

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers; it is responsible for more deaths (21,000 annually) than drunk driving (17,400 annually). Although—like asbestos—when inhaled, there is no safe amount of radon, the EPA has set a measure of 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) as the "actionable" level inside a home. Researchers at Johns Hopkins and the World Health Organization now advocate for lowering the actionable level of radon to 2pCi/L, because of the high levels of background radiation in modern life.

Using the general rule of thumb of 10 half-lives to decay to 1/1000 of original concentration, that would require 38 days, or roughly one month. With radon gas, the minimum dangerous concentration is much lower if breathed in. Twenty half-lives (or 1/1,000,000 of original concentration) would require 76 days or two and a half months. So the time that radon can be considered dangerous is much longer than public perception, and, even when decayed, radon converts to polonium and finally lead, also dangerous substances.

Radon is even more of a danger to children and pets, because it is a "heavy" gas (it decays to lead) and is known to "sink," meaning it seeks the lowest level of the space it occupies. Combined with studies that link gas cooking emissions with lowered infant development, radon is truly a legitimate public health risk.

**The dEIS reads:** "Since radon is not destroyed by combustion, burning natural gas containing radon can increase the level of radon within a home (Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, 2010)."

CO5-1

Comment noted. See the response to comment CM1-21.